



Barack Obama  
inspires PC students  
in Boston.

Page 10

**GOT SENIORITIS?**  
Jennifer McCafferty '07 shares  
her diagnosis on Page 17.

Michelle Childs '08 helps  
Friars race to victory at  
UConn Invitational

Page 26



EST. 1935

# THE COWL



VOL. LXXI No. 23

WWW.THECOWL.COM • PROVIDENCE COLLEGE • PROVIDENCE, R.I.

APRIL 26, 2007

## Renowned paleontologist speaks at the College

BY MELISSA SILVANIC '08  
NEWS STAFF

On Monday, April 23, the Providence College community welcomed world-renowned anthropologist and paleontologist, Dr. Ian Tattersall. Each year, eight individual professors from different disciplines within the PC academic faculty have held a special seminar focusing on a specific theme. The faculty members work together as students to study the theme, and Dr. Tattersall was invited as this year's guest lecturer. His lecture echoed the theme of the seminar: what it means to be human.

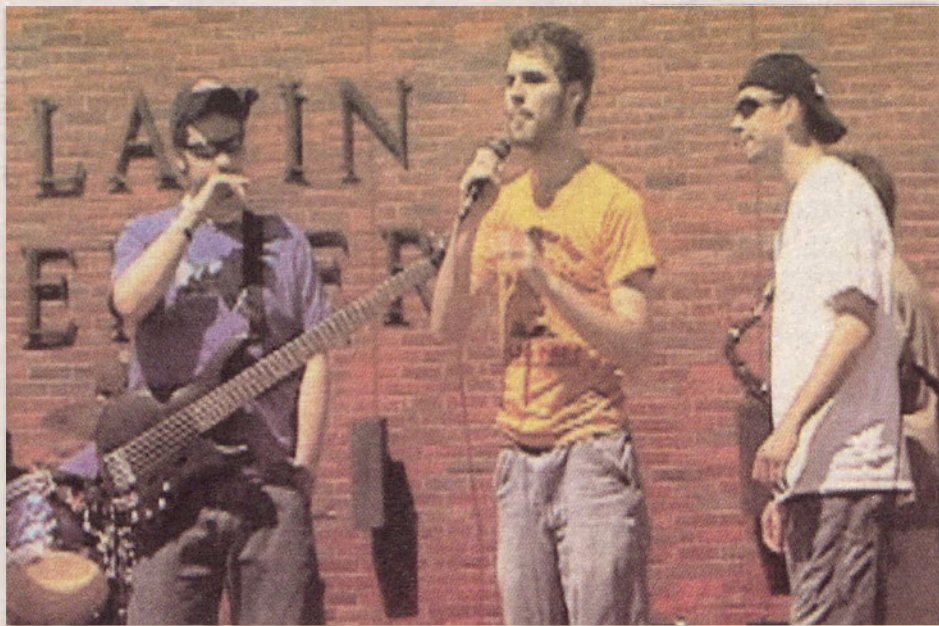
Dr. Thomas F. Strasser, assistant professor of art and art history, was thrilled to take part in sponsoring such a distinguished scholar.

"Dr. Ian Tattersall is a leading expert on Stone Age art," said Strasser. "I am particularly interested in his research on why we started producing art (called the 'creative explosion') 35,000 years ago despite the fact the modern humans (Homo sapiens) existed previously for tens of thousands of years. His opinions are considered authoritative. To sponsor a scholar of such high caliber is quite a feather in PC's cap, as well as a testament to accomplishments of the CTE (Center for Teaching Excellence)."

Tattersall's lecture focused on "how human beings became the extraordinary creatures they are today."

Tattersall began his lecture by speaking about the origins of man. The earliest essentially complete Hominid skeleton is known as "Lucy" and can be dated back 3.2 million years ago. Approximately 200,000 years ago, "Neanderthals" emerged. There is proof of simple burial procedures within the Neanderthal society, which signifies the

TATTERSALL/Page 5



IAN OREFICE '07

Above: Andy MacMannis '09, center, with the band, Capitol Hill, were among the 11 different acts that performed at Stuartstock, Saturday, April 21, on Slavin Lawn. The event was sponsored by Student Congress.

## Concert stocks Slavin

BY DEVIN MURPHY '10  
NEWS STAFF

Providence College's Student Congress hosted the annual Stuartstock concert on Slavin lawn on Saturday, April 21 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.. The concert featured a medley of different bands, musical groups, and solo musicians. Eleven acts participated in the concert: Capitol Hill, Mother's Mistake, Joel DeFelice '09, RSun, Special Guest, PC Jazz Ensemble, Andy MacMannis '09, Sails and Sails, Dave Heath Band, and The Upstairs.

"We've never played at Stuartstock before," said Michael Mulholland '08 of Mother's Mistake. "... It was fun, and the weather was great."

Jillianne Liotta '09, was very impressed with the many performers at Stuartstock.

"Joel DeFelice was my favorite [performer]....but [The Upstairs] was hyster-

ical. I did like the concert, and if it is nice out again next year, like it was this year, I'll definitely be there. I loved that it was outside on such a nice day."

According to MacMannis, a member of Congress, Congress began advertising for bands many months ago. They e-mailed many bands that had played at McPhail's in the past. However, many performers were found by word of mouth.

"Our drummer signed us up. We'd love to play again next year," said Mulholland.

Congress wanted to use Stuartstock as an opportunity to show students that there are options for entertainment on campus that do not involve alcohol.

"PC's drinking issue is not as much a matter of us being drunks as a lack of things for us to do on campus," said MacMannis. "It's a great option to have on a Saturday afternoon."

Two hundred people confirmed

FESTIVAL/Page 2

## Students find faith, search for answers

BY MALLARY JEAN TENORE '07  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF EMERITUS

*This is the last article of a four-part series on diversity at Providence College.*

As a child, Greg Kerr '07 never attended Mass and knew little about his faith. Having been raised by a mother who is a non-practicing Catholic and a father who is an atheist, Kerr rarely talked to anyone about his faith.

DIVERSITY

"I never had anything against the Church—if anything I had a respect for it—but it just wasn't part of my life," Kerr said.

Since coming to Providence College, however, Kerr's religious life—like that of many other PC students—has dramatically changed.

During his freshman year, Kerr participated in the year-long Rights of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program and was confirmed in April of 2004. Since then, he has led five retreats, been an RCIA leader, and served as president of Campus Ministry.

The events that led to his spiritual transformation began in high school when he vacationed with his friend's family. Spending time with them made Kerr realize that something had been missing from his life.

"Seeing their faith . . . and seeing that they had lost a son but still had faith enough to go to Mass and make Church a part of their life inspired me," Kerr said. Though he used to attend festivals at the parish where his cousin is a priest merely

RELIGION/Page 4

## Seniors display artwork

BY CHRIS DONNELLY '08  
NEWS STAFF

Anytime an artist's work is put on display, it is a significant occasion, but the event is made even more important when the artist is asked to put an entire show together.

STUDENT LIFE

Senior studio art majors were asked to show pieces that they had created during this past year in the Robert F. and Mary Anne Reilly Gallery in the Smith Center for the Arts.

The type of artwork shown must be the type the studio art major has as his or her concentration.

The Reilly Gallery shows two artists' work for 10 days. For each showing, there is a special opening night reception.

Both the reception and advertisements for the show are planned by the seniors.

Sara Lugo-dePedro '07 and Elinor McCandless '07 currently have their works on display. Their opening night reception will be held on Thursday, April 26 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Their artwork has been in the Reilly Gallery since Monday, April 23, and will be shown until Thursday, May 3.

"I am really happy with how it turned out," said McCandless. "Sara and I have different styles, but it all ties together really well, which was a surprise to us."

Lugo-dePedro has her studio art concentration in digital imaging and used it, along with silk painting, to create her work.

In order to make her pieces, Lugo-

ART/Page 5



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

### Wall to wall:

Will Hutnick '07 studies a student's art work in the Reilly Gallery, where senior Studio Art majors are currently showing their senior theses. Students work in pairs to put together shows, a reception and advertising.

### INSIDE THE COWL:

**Poll Question:**  
Does PC encourage religious diversity?

**World:**  
One week later: Virginia Tech begins to heal.

**Commentary:**  
Shall we dance? Mambo as metaphor for marriage.

**A&E:**  
Student's play puts a pop culture spin on familiar fairy tales.

**Portfolio:**  
"I'm not a creep, I'm a writer." Sure. . .

**Roving:**  
What do you do at PC when it's nice out?

**Sports:**  
Exclusive interview with PC's own Ryan Gomes.



# Festival: Good weather adds to atmosphere

continued from front page

through the Facebook Web site that they would be attending the event. Students gathered on the Slavin Center lawn throughout the afternoon to enjoy the entertainment, where each band or performer played a short set.

In addition to the free music, Student Congress also provided free food and activities. Students were able to eat cotton candy, snow cones, and pizza and were also able to tie-dye T-shirts.

"You can do whatever you want," said MacMannis '09.

A large number of students did just that: whatever they wanted. Blankets were strewn across the lawn for those just hanging out, or those in hopes of getting a tan. People brought beach balls, footballs, and Frisbees to throw around



IAN OREFICE '07

**Above: Students show off the t-shirts they received at Stuartstock. The event included live music, free food, and activities throughout the afternoon. Students also donated to the 1% Campaign.**

for a few hours.

Student Congress had been planning the event for months in advance. Initial planning began in January at the beginning of the semester. The surplus of funds for Student Congress provided the funding for the event.

The concert, however, also served as a charity event. A table was set up for donations to the 1% Campaign to combat homelessness. All afternoon, students were encouraged to make a donation and give back to those in need.

In the history of Stuartstock, this was the first year the concert has been held outside. In years past, the concert, named after Rev. Stuart McPhail, O.P., vice president of student services, has been held in McPhail's on weeknights.

"In the past it has not really been that big," MacMannis said of Stuartstock.

However, moving the event outside made it much more popular this year. The sunny weather gave many students the encouragement to venture out of their dorms and hangout on the lawn.

"It's great. I love the weather," said Liz Fennell '09.

Jeff Harris, '09 attended the concert for the first time this spring.

"I had never been to it before. My favorite band had to be the one that played the reggae and [Red Hot] Chili Peppers stuff (The Upstairs). I had a great time and wished that I had been able to go for longer than I did."

A steady trickle of people stopped by the concert throughout the day to enjoy the free concert and activities.

## Congress Election Results

Class of 2008  
President: Ryan Donnelly

Vice President: Sarah Highland

Secretary: Litsa Georgakilis

Treasurer: Saba Nessralla

Representatives: Ricky LaBontee, Steven Kenney, Kate Lyons, Kevin Johnson, and Mandee Adams

Number of people who voted: 316

Class of 2009  
President: Jesse De Patsy

Vice President: Shannon Case

Secretary: Will Bromstedt

Treasurer: Billy Byrne

Representatives: Kieran Murray, Andy MacMannis, Alyssa Runowicz, Danielle Schaetzle, and Lizzie Reilly

Number of people who voted: 501

Class of 2010  
President: Jaimie Scambio

Vice President: Andrew Kelley

Secretary: Lauren Birnie

Treasurer: Caitlin Durkin

Representatives: Katie Brennan, Brendan Shine, Elian Seidel, Megan Breen, and Chris Huber

Number of people who voted: 575

### Accuracy Watch

The Cowl is committed to accuracy and carefully checks every article that goes into print to ensure that the facts are presented clearly and truthfully. If you find an error in any article, please e-mail the editor at [thecowl@providence.edu](mailto:thecowl@providence.edu). Corrections will be printed as necessary on page 2.

Correction: In the April 19 issue of *The Cowl*, the last line of an article by Kyle Drennen '07 was missing. The article should have ended: "I hope I have encouraged constructive debate on campus with my writing and hope that such debate will continue long after I graduate."

## CAMPUS

## CALENDAR

## April 27 to May 3

27 Friday	28 Saturday	29 Sunday	30 Monday	1 Tuesday	2 Wednesday	3 Thursday
<b>5:00 p.m.</b> Clam Jam, Slavin Center Lawn.  <b>8:00 p.m.</b> Tales from Atop the Beanstalk, Smith Center for the Arts. Bowab Theatre	<b>2:00 and 8:00 p.m.</b> Tales from Atop the Beanstalk, Smith Center for the Arts. Bowab Theatre.  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Rejects on the Rise with Starla and Sons, Moore Hall II.  <b>8:00 p.m.</b> BLINGO, Slavin Lawn.	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> I Cantori and Concert Chorale, Smith Center for the Arts. Ryan Concert Hall.  <b>2:00 p.m.</b> Spring Dance Concert, Smith Center for the Arts. Angell Blackfriars Theatre.	<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar: "Being Human," Feinstein 400.  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Student Congress meeting, Slavin Center 114.	<b>6:30 p.m.</b> Richard Simmons workout with prizes, Slavin Center '64 Hall.  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Coffeehouse: Jason Wilder Evans, McPhail's.	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> Student Pottery Sale, Slavin Center.  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Orchestra Concert, Smith Center for the Arts. Ryan Concert Hall.	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> Ben Folds concert, Schneider Arena.

### Customer Service Call Center

Looking for the perfect summer job?

Pro Staff is offering seasonal positions starting @ \$12.50/hr for students who can work a flexible schedule from May to September.

Whether you're currently enrolled or a recent graduate and have the familiarity and ability to relate to financing education, then we have the job for you!

Send your resume and call today!  
[providence.jobs@prostaff.com](mailto:providence.jobs@prostaff.com)

Pro Staff - Talent that Works  
220 West Exchange Street  
Suite 106  
Providence, RI 02903  
Ph 401.351.0720  
Fax 401.272.6779

**PRO STAFF**  
talent  
that works.

Putting talent to work since 1982.

[prostaff.com](http://prostaff.com) • 1-800-938-WORK

Administrative • Finance & Accounting • Information Technology • Technical

©2006, Dallas Temporary Services, Inc. All rights reserved.

**KAPLAN** TEST PREP AND ADMISSIONS

## The LSAT will have a new question type for June 2007.

Being prepared for this change can give you a significant advantage on the exam. Kaplan provides complete and proven preparation for every question type you will see on the LSAT—including Comparative Reading questions!

Classes are starting now:

**Saturday, May 5th at 10am**  
**Saturday, June 9th at 10am**

**FREE LSAT Test Strategy Seminar on...**  
**Thursday, May 17th at 6:30pm**

Kaplan provides the most complete and proven prep for the LSAT.  
**Start today.**

**1-800-KAP-TEST | [kaptest.com/lsat](http://kaptest.com/lsat)**

Higher LSAT score guaranteed or your money back.



# Philosophy conference provides chance for student participation

BY RICK KURKER '09  
NEWS STAFF

Philosophy was the focus on Saturday, April 21, as the College's Philosophy Club hosted the Third Annual New England Undergraduate Philosophy Conference from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## CLUBS & ORGS

"The conference is an example of philosophy happening instead of having already happened," said Michael Bonnell '08, vice president of the Philosophy Club and co-founder of the Philosophy Conference.

Dr. Peter Costello, associate professor of philosophy and advisor of the Philosophy Club, said that approximately 25 schools were involved in the conference, including Boston College, Brown University, Boston University, SUNY Potsdam, SUNY Binghamton, Central Connecticut State, and the host school, Providence College.

"This was the widest representation the conference has ever achieved," he said.

According to Costello, the three main organizers of the event were Bonnell, Kelly Jones '07, and Monica de Aguiar '07, who were, in turn, aided by other members of the club.

"The students and I put in, literally, thousands of hours to make the conference run," Costello said. "Students raised money at bake sales, developed the structure for the conference, took care of the printing and organization of the day, to list a few."

Costello said he worked together with the students to bring in lecture submissions for the conference.

"Together we called every philosophy department in New England and solicited submissions," he said. "Together we judged the submissions and made difficult decisions as to which to accept."

Costello said that 12 PC students were selected and prepared responses to accepted papers. The students were: Wendy Dueri '07, Jen Daigle '07, Andy Cuniff '08, Gina Santiago '09, Carla Ciorlano

'07, Brittany Allen '08, John Hanson '08, JD Driscoll '07, Kelly Jones '07, Ian Kaloyanides '08, Courtney Suddes '07, and Kenny Hewitt '07. He also said that Daigle, a philosophy major, Nicole Phillis '07, a women's studies and political science major, and Kristina Reardon '08, an English major, presented original papers at the conference.

"I felt very confident presenting my

paper," Reardon said. "I worked on this paper for such a long time last semester, and I'm working on applying a revised version of my thesis from that paper to a project I'm working on now in an English class, and I plan to elaborate further on both of those ideas for my senior thesis project in the fall."

"There were four different seminars available each hour, so students had many options to choose from," said JD Driscoll '07. "Overall, there were 20 student seminar presentations throughout the day."

Driscoll attended seminars, including "Conceivability and Ontological Possibility," presented by Daigle, and "Our Visual World: Illusion or Reality?" presented by Ana Van Gulick of Brown University. He also said that he responded to the presentation "Was Peter John Olivi an Intuitionist," presented by Owen Schaefer of Princeton University.

According to Costello, 15 PC faculty members moderated the sessions: 12 from the philosophy department, two from the theology department, and one from the women's studies department.

"Students and faculty who attended each paper and response discussed with one another the issues raised in each one," he said.

"The presenters were all very smart and delivered interesting speeches that got their audiences very involved," Driscoll said. "The respondents had also prepared very well."

At 11:30 a.m., Dr. Jamie Crooks, chair of the philosophy department at Bishop's University in Sherbrook, Quebec, presented the keynote speech on Plato's Phaedo and how humans are to live in the present.

"The keynote address was wonderful, and everyone has spoken highly of it, from professors to students who thought it was very inspiring," said Aguiar. "At the keynote address we had about 210 people in the audience, and a steady 100 to 150 were present throughout the day."

Driscoll was also impressed by Crooks.

"The keynote speaker was phenomenal," said Driscoll. "He delivered an incredible speech that

was applicable to both academics and students. He spoke with an emotional fervor that made listeners enthusiastic about the material being discussed. He was poetic and articulate. Overall, it was an honor to hear Dr. Crooks do philosophy."

"The keynote address was just wonderful," said Dr. Timothy Mahony, associate professor of philosophy. "[Crooks'] analysis was superb, he was really engaging, he fielded the fine questions really well, and he went out of his way to mention students [who had presented papers] and all the specific topics of the students' papers. I just can't imagine a better keynote than that."

Overall, attendees seemed to agree that the conference was a great success.

"I was impressed by the number of great schools who had taken part in the conference," said Driscoll. "The conference has really put PC on the map as a school that is serious about philosophy. PC's reputation for philosophy has continued to grow year after year because of this conference, attracting big-name schools, highly intelligent students, and some of the best professional philosophers in North America."

"I thought it was enormously successful," said Dr. Susan Bredlau, adjunct instructor of philosophy. "I was particularly impressed by the thoughtfulness of both the questions asked by the audience and the answers given by the speakers. The generosity evident in these exchanges was one of the defining characteristics of the conference. Everyone's willingness to listen carefully and respond seriously to the ideas of others marked the event as

truly philosophical."

"The attendance was the highest at any of the three undergraduate philosophy conferences to date," said Dr. Vance Morgan, professor and chair of the department of philosophy. "The quality of the papers I listened to was very high, frequently at graduate school level. The conference ran very smoothly, a testament to the hundreds of hours put into its planning by Dr. Costello and an admirably dedicated group of students. I frequently heard visitors from off-campus comment positively on all aspects of the conference. In short, the event showed the philosophy department and PC students at their best."

"This is one of the finest, if not the finest, undergraduate conference for philosophy in the country, and the work of those involved in organizing, running, and participating in it needs to be duly recognized," Daigle said. "I think that professors need to be more active in encouraging their students to attend and get involved in the conference. The sharing of ideas, the cultivation of undergraduate talent, the fostering of a philosophical community bent on promoting dialogue between individuals—these things really are important."

De Aguiar said that the conference this year was "bittersweet" for her personally because, as a senior, it is her last year organizing the event.

"I am so proud of conference and how it has progressed over the last three years," she said. "Dr. Peter Costello has been an inspiration to the students and has gently encouraged us even when we extremely felt like giving up."

De Aguiar said that the sixty-five paper submissions received was "overwhelming" and shows the strides the conference has taken over the past few years.

"My only hope is that the conference continues to show what great students and dedicated department [of philosophy] we have at PC and that the conference grows and inspires students to pursue philosophy either as a major, or like me, as an essential part of being a human and living a good life," she said.

Costello added that philosophy has become a sort of institution at Providence College, and he credits this to the students who have presented their work in philosophy.

"Philosophy for me has always been about building a community of those who take thinking seriously," he said. "At least for a day, such a community came closer to being a lasting reality."

"The overall success of the conference was astounding," Bonnell said. "Both in terms of quantity and quality of the papers received and selected for the conference, as well as the event itself, which had the best attendance yet seen and some of the best discussions that I have heard yet at

“My only hope is that the conference continues to show what great students and a dedicated department [of philosophy] we have at PC and that the conference grows and inspires students to pursue philosophy . . .

Monica De Aguiar '07

”

## The Bryant Master of Professional Accountancy

Technical Excellence. Market Advantage.



"I continue to be impressed by the quality of employees we recruit from Bryant."

ROBERT CALABRO '88  
TAX PARTNER, PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

Start your career with a competitive advantage. Earn your Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) degree at Bryant University.

- Complete the required 150 hours of education to be eligible to sit for the CPA exam in one year.
- Learn the accounting, client relations, and project management skills that will set you apart from the crowd.
- More than 40 top regional and international firms recruit at Bryant each year.

To learn more, attend an information session:  
April 26 or May 1 at 3 p.m. at Bryant University

To register for an information session  
or schedule an interview and tour, visit  
[www.bryant.edu/gradprog](http://www.bryant.edu/gradprog), e-mail  
[mpac@bryant.edu](mailto:mpac@bryant.edu), or call 401-232-6230.

BRYANT UNIVERSITY  
1150 Douglas Pike  
Smithfield, R.I. 02917



## THOMAS J. FAY, ESQ.

One Turks Head Place, Suite 1300  
Providence, RI 02903

Tel. (401) 277-1300 Fax (401) 277-1119.

[tjf@bowermantaylor.com](mailto:tjf@bowermantaylor.com)

Automobile Accidents • Personal Injury  
Uninsured Motorist • Wrongful Death  
Premises Liability • Dog Bites  
Business Litigation • Expungement

Night and Weekend appointments available  
**FREE CONSULTATION FOR P.C. STUDENTS**

Rhode Island does not have a procedure for certifying attorneys in areas of specialization.



# Religion: College affords chance to explore faith

continued from front page

for the free food, he eventually gained an appreciation for the parishioners and the respect they had for his cousin.

This appreciation carried over into his college life, a time of reflection and prayer in St. Dominic Chapel.

"During my free time I found myself drawn to the chapel for comfort, which in a way was surprising," said Kerr. "I was never taught in my family to go to God for comfort, but that is what I did."

He continued to find comfort in his faith when attending the Encounter retreat freshman year. Upon returning, he remembers experiencing a "post-retreat high."

"I was expecting the same thing from being confirmed, but it didn't happen. While it sounds disappointing, it actually worked out," Kerr said. "It taught me that just because I couldn't feel God's grace at a certain instant, it was still there."

A desire to better understand God's grace and the Catholic teachings led Haylee Jones '09 to join the RCIA program last semester. Making the decision to get confirmed at a later age, Jones said, made the experience more meaningful.

"A lot of my friends said, 'I wish I waited too,'" noted Jones. "They said it was just something they had to do—something that wasn't really their choice."

Having moved several times growing up, Jones never stayed long enough at a Church to get confirmed. It was the Dominican Order, however, that led her to want to attend Providence College and ultimately receive the sacrament.

"I thought it was so awesome that there were Dominicans living on campus," Jones said. "I feel like I could go to any of them and ask for advice or help with anything."

Though she attended Catholic high school, Jones said she has found PC students to be much more devout than her friends from home who attend non-Catholic colleges and universities.

"It's weird to think my friends don't go to church at home. Almost all of my friends here go to Mass," she said.

While Jones and Kerr have found their niche in the Catholic community at PC, others look for spiritual satisfaction elsewhere. Allie Spivack '07, who practices Judaism, regularly attends the Temple Emanu El on the east side of Providence.

"I find that most people are surprised at the fact that I attended a Catholic school and are curious as to why I would,"

Spivack said. "I try to explain that in making my decision, I felt most comfortable at PC . . . and I felt confident that the religious affiliation of the College would not interfere with the experience I hoped to have at college."

Spivack said her four years at PC would have been further enriched if she had been given the opportunity to learn more about her own

faith.

"I had a very difficult time finding theology courses that would not only teach me about Catholicism but also about other religions, including my own," Spivack said. "... It is important for all of us as PC students to have the opportunity to learn about beliefs different from our own in order to be part of a more accepting society," she said.

Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P., assistant chaplain and overseer of the RCIA pro-

gram, said that while learning about other religious traditions can be important, there is also much diversity to be found within Catholicism itself.

"... What we often fail to appreciate is

that even among our

own Catholic stu-

dents, the varied

ways in which stu-

dents express that

Catholic faith is real-

ly pretty amazing,"

said Father Walker.

"The fact that within

a two-hour span on

Tuesday nights in St.

Dominic chapel you

go from having a

group of students

praying the rosary—

one of the most "tra-

ditional" prayers in Catholicism—to stu-

dents doing praise and worship with gui-

tars playing, hands in the air or clapping,

etc.—a very contemporary form of

prayer—is just one example of such

diversity."

Caitlin Ferrarini '07 said she prays

every night for forgiveness, guidance, and

for loved ones and friends, but she does

not attend Mass.

"I understand the meaning of the

Church rituals, as we had a lesson about it

in our religion text every year. Yet in col-

lege, rituals of the Mass—like standing,

kneeling, sitting, singing, and reciting—

started to become meaningless and a little

bizarre," said Ferrarini, who has attended

Catholic school for 17 years.

While she agrees with many of the

moral and Catholic social justice teach-

ings of the Church, Ferrarini disagrees

with the Church's stance on abortion,

birth control, gay marriage, and women as

priests.

"I started to disagree with some of the

Church's teachings around junior year of

high school and have become more dis-

tanced in college as I've become more

conscious of political issues and my own

morals and views," she said.

Rev. Joseph J. Guido, O.P., vice president of Mission and Ministry, assistant professor of psychology, and a counseling psychologist in the Personal Counseling

Center, said religious disengagement among young people is often a matter of indifference.

In a paper entitled

"Between Heaven and

Earth: The Religious

Journey of College

Students Today,"

Father Guido writes:

"In the marketplace of

demands and diver-

sions, religion has

occupied a relatively

minor niche and has

not served to define

[young people] as it may have defined

their parents. It is no wonder, then, that

their children should imbibe a religion

that . . . makes few demands beyond being

nice and tolerant, offers a measure of

comfort in times of trouble, and rarely

interferes with life's other pursuits."

Recent studies conducted by

Providence College show that while stu-

dents may describe themselves as reli-

gious, they spend very little time actually

praying, talking about their faith, or inte-

grating religion into their daily lives.

Thus, Father Guido suggests, many young

people are somewhere between Heaven

and Earth and are in need of a bridge to

help lessen the gap.

"Providence College should be willing

to . . . welcome the seekers, the disen-

gaged, and the devout alike. We should be

willing to meet them in a middle place

and to provide the bridge that their faith

and lives require, even if unbeknownst to

them," he writes. "The bridge must extend

between faith and reason, the personal

and communal, objective truth and sub-

jective experience, and across the com-

mon divides of gender, race, and class."

"I had a very difficult time finding theology courses that would not only teach me about Catholicism, but also about other religions . . .

Allie Spivack '07

Caitlin Ferrarini '07

## OUR TOP 10 GRADUATE MAJORS:

MBA

Physician Assistant

Interactive Communications

Teaching

Biomedical Sciences

Molecular/Cell Biology

Journalism

Nursing

Accounting

Computer Information Systems



## MASTERING THE ART OF TEACHING

Sheila Wycinowski, Director of Curriculum and Staff Development at Amity High School, explains, "Basically we look to hire Quinnipiac students. They have a clear understanding of lesson planning and classroom management and the balance between them." She also characterizes Quinnipiac students as articulate, creative, able to encourage higher-level thinking in students, and able to incorporate technology into their teaching.

## QUINNIPIAC U:

### RAVE REVIEWS FOR OUR MBA

The Quinnipiac University School of Business MBA program continues to prepare business professionals for the realities of management in global, technology-driven work environments in specializations such as:

- **MBA** WITH CONCENTRATIONS IN ACCOUNTING, CIS, FINANCE, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, MARKETING
- **MBA** – CHARTERED FINANCIAL ANALYST® TRACK
- **MBA** IN HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT

### >> YOUR NEXT MOVE

Quinnipiac University offers graduate programs in 17 distinct disciplines. Whether you are interested in our AACSB nationally accredited business program, the master of arts in teaching (MAT) program or one of the Northeast's most highly regarded journalism and interactive communications programs, all have been designed to thoroughly prepare you for a professional career. For more information, call 1-800-462-1944 or visit [www.quinnipiac.edu](http://www.quinnipiac.edu).

**QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY**

Hamden, Connecticut



# Art: Students work together to produce senior art shows

continued from front page

dePedro said she had to create the images digitally, then turn them into screens. She then screenprinted the images onto silk, and, finally, painted the same silk with silkpaints.

She said she chose to utilize silk painting because it was "something I fell in love with during my semester abroad in Florence."

Lugo-dePedro described this process as "time-consuming," and she said she worked the entire semester on creating the seven pieces being showcased.

"The images themselves are personified deities [of the planets] rendered in a scratchy, rough way," said Lugo-dePedro.

McCandless is showing her drawings alongside Lugo-dePedro's work at the gallery.

For her show, McCandless displayed 18 landscape drawings created mostly from her second semester of senior year. The name of her show is "Evening Fall," which is due to her use of blacks, browns, and dark blues to draw her landscapes.

Some of the landscapes were from local R.I. spots, like Chase Farms and Lincoln Woods, which are both in Lincoln, Rhode Island.

Other drawings were inspired by scenes in Newport, R. I. and her spring break trip to Mexico.

McCandless started out drawing city landscapes in Providence, but said she did not like it. It was her art professor, Lynn Curtis, who suggested the other Rhode Island settings.

"The finished product looks so easy, but there is a lot of planning," said McCandless, who was referring to work like measuring and leveling that goes into showing artwork in a gallery.

Both Erin Munchbach '07 and William Hutnick '07 previously had their work shown in the Reilly Gallery from

Tuesday, April 10 to Friday, April 20, and their opening night was on Thursday, April 12 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

According to Munchbach, the gallery was full from about 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

"We had a huge turnout—all great responses and praise for both of our works," said Hutnick.

Hutnick's work consisted of seven acrylic paintings that he said were approximately four feet by five feet in size. Hutnick said the paintings are abstract, and are intended to capture energy and movement using intensity of color and markmaking.

He said he worked on these paintings from January until days before the show, and found inspiration from a toy horse, specifically its exterior curves, that he found in the drawing studio.

"I learned that putting on an entire show yourself is a lot of work, but it was also very rewarding," said Hutnick. "I was able to showcase my talent and what I have learned as an artist and as student."

Munchbach's show was called "Enlightenment", and was a series of illuminated sculptures. She said her works are meant to take on a "child-like outlook on things that are sort of goofy and fun."

One piece called "Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner," used empty baby food jars. Another piece, entitled "Soon to be a butterfly," consisted of blocks she cut from a child's rubber mat that she interwove, leaving spaces to let the blinking Christmas lights shine through.

Her use of light meant that her work required that the space around it be dark. Since Hutnick's work required light, they had to light one side of the gallery and darken the other.

"It is nice seeing the fruits of your labors being displayed," said Munchbach. "Hard work pays off. It was better than any paper I could have done."

# Tattersall: Lecture traces the development of man



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

Left to right: Rev. Joseph Cassidy, O.P., Rev. Paul Conner, O.P., and Dr. Ian Tattersall speak with one another after Tattersall gave his lecture on the history and development of man.

continued from front page

beginning of feelings of humanity.

"A burial procedure conveys some form of empathy with the dead," said Tattersall, adding that modern humans can relate to burials on a higher level.

"Modern" humans originated approximately 40,000 years ago and with them came modern "anatomy and cognition." New materials were used for tools, burials became more complex, artwork and music were infused into life, and proof of language and notation emerged.

"A cultural stimulus," according to Tattersall, was responsible for the innovations of modern humans. In this particular case, language is considered the factor for our modernity.

"Symbolic thought above all differentiates us from them," Tattersall said.

He added that these modern humans had "a new capacity unlike any Hominids before." Language, as a communication factor, is oftentimes described as the sole responsibility for the depth of relationships.

Dr. Tattersall earned his undergraduate degree from Cambridge University and his doctorate from Yale University. He is the curator of the Anthropology division of the Museum of Natural History in New York City, and also manages to teach at Columbia University and the City University of New York. He is described as a specialist in the field of the human fossil and is responsible for more than 200 scientific publications.

What does the Providence College Dance Company have in common with fairy tale characters?

You can see both the weekend of 27-29 April in the Smith Center!

## Tales From Atop the Beanstalk

Written & directed by Carolyn Blum '07  
John Bowab Studio Theatre  
April 27-29  
Friday & Saturday at 8pm  
Saturday & Sunday at 2pm

\$5 General Admission

## Spring Dance Concert

A Showcase of Student Choreography  
Angell Blackfriars Theatre  
April 28 & 29  
Saturday at 8pm  
Sunday at 2pm

\$5 Reserved Seating

The Box Office is now open

Monday-Friday

1:30-5pm

Call for Tickets (401) 865-2218

Presented by the Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film

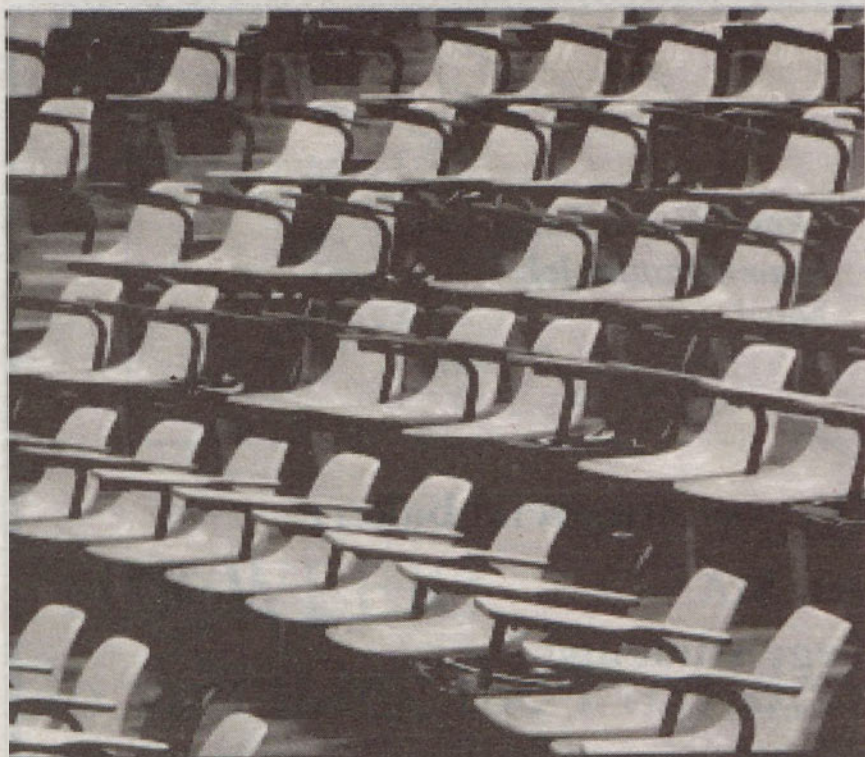
## SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY!

### OFFICE OF ADMISSION STUDENT SUMMER WORKERS

The Office of Admission is seeking out current PC students who are interested in working in the office during the summer months. Responsibilities include giving campus tours, speaking to prospective student audiences and assisting the Office of Admission staff with various projects (This is a full time position).

Applications will be available starting Monday, March 26, 2007 in Harkins Hall 222.

Please contact Jen Hastings, Associate Dean of Admission with any questions at x.2680 or [jhasting@providence.edu](mailto:jhasting@providence.edu)



## YOUR FUTURE IS WITHIN REACH And so is the money to pay for it

College expenses should not be a roadblock for your future. Stay on track with an alternative loan from Campus Door. Get up to \$250,000 to pay for college and make no payments until 12 months after you graduate. Apply online today at [campusdoor.com](http://campusdoor.com) to receive an approval usually in less than a minute. Spend your time planning for your future, not worrying about how to pay for it.

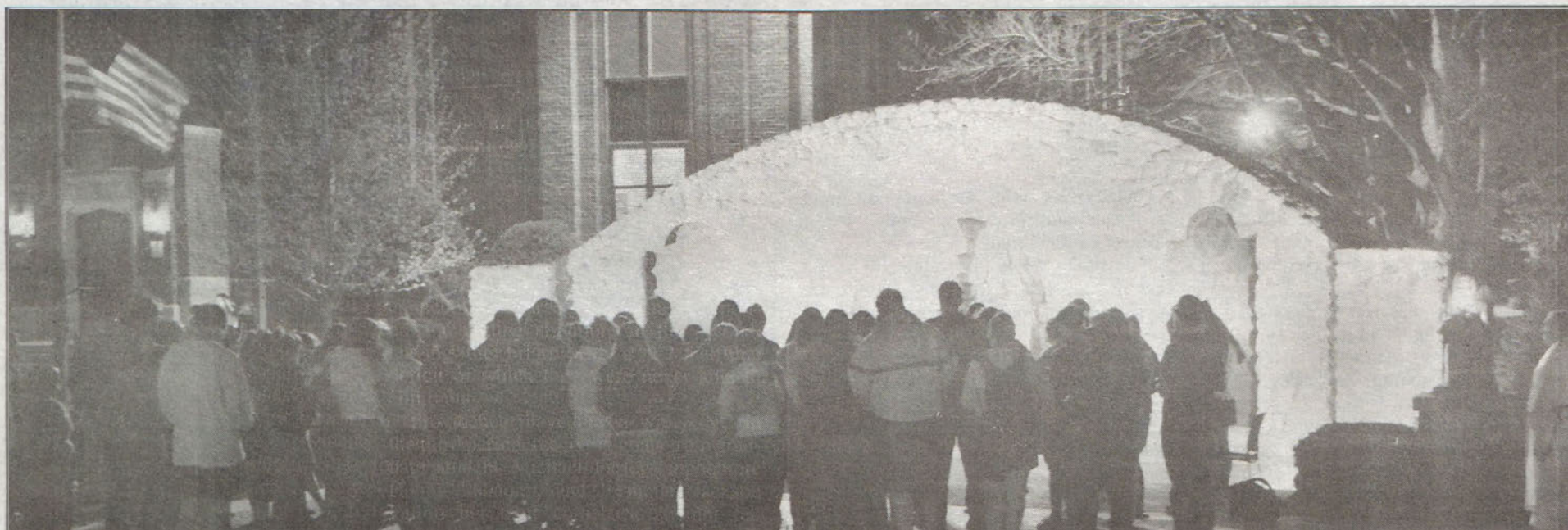
You have the will. We have the way.  
[campusdoor.com](http://campusdoor.com)

**campusdoor**

All loans are subject to credit approval. Programs, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Other restrictions apply. Trade/Service marks are the property of Campus Door Inc. and/or its affiliates. Lender is Lehman Brothers Bank, PSB. ©2007 Campus Door Inc. All Rights Reserved. Equal Opportunity Lender.

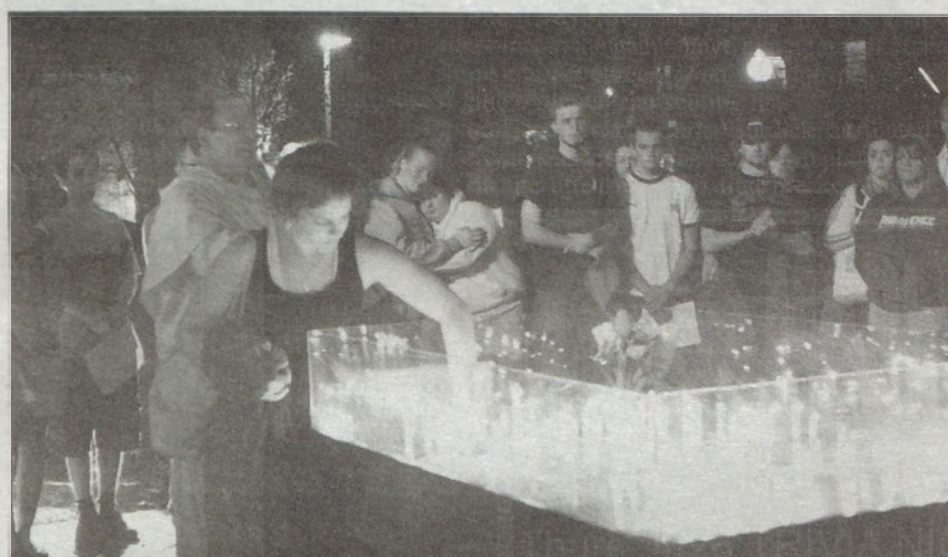


# One week later, PC remembers VT



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

Approximately 100 people attended a memorial service for the victims of the Virginia Tech massacre in front of St. Dominic Chapel on Monday, April 23. At the candlelight vigil, students and other members of the PC community were able to light candles in remembrance of those lost last week at Virginia Tech. A box filled with sand was located by the grotto of St. Dominic Chapel and lit candles were provided to be placed in the sand.



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

**GOLD MEDAL**  
Since *Bakery* 1912

**Don't Wait....Land  
Your Summer Job  
Now!**

**Gold Medal Bakery, a commercial bakery  
in Fall River, MA  
is looking for college students!**

Must be at least 18 years of age.

No experience necessary.

Work as a Machine Operator or Shipper in a fast-paced automated environment.

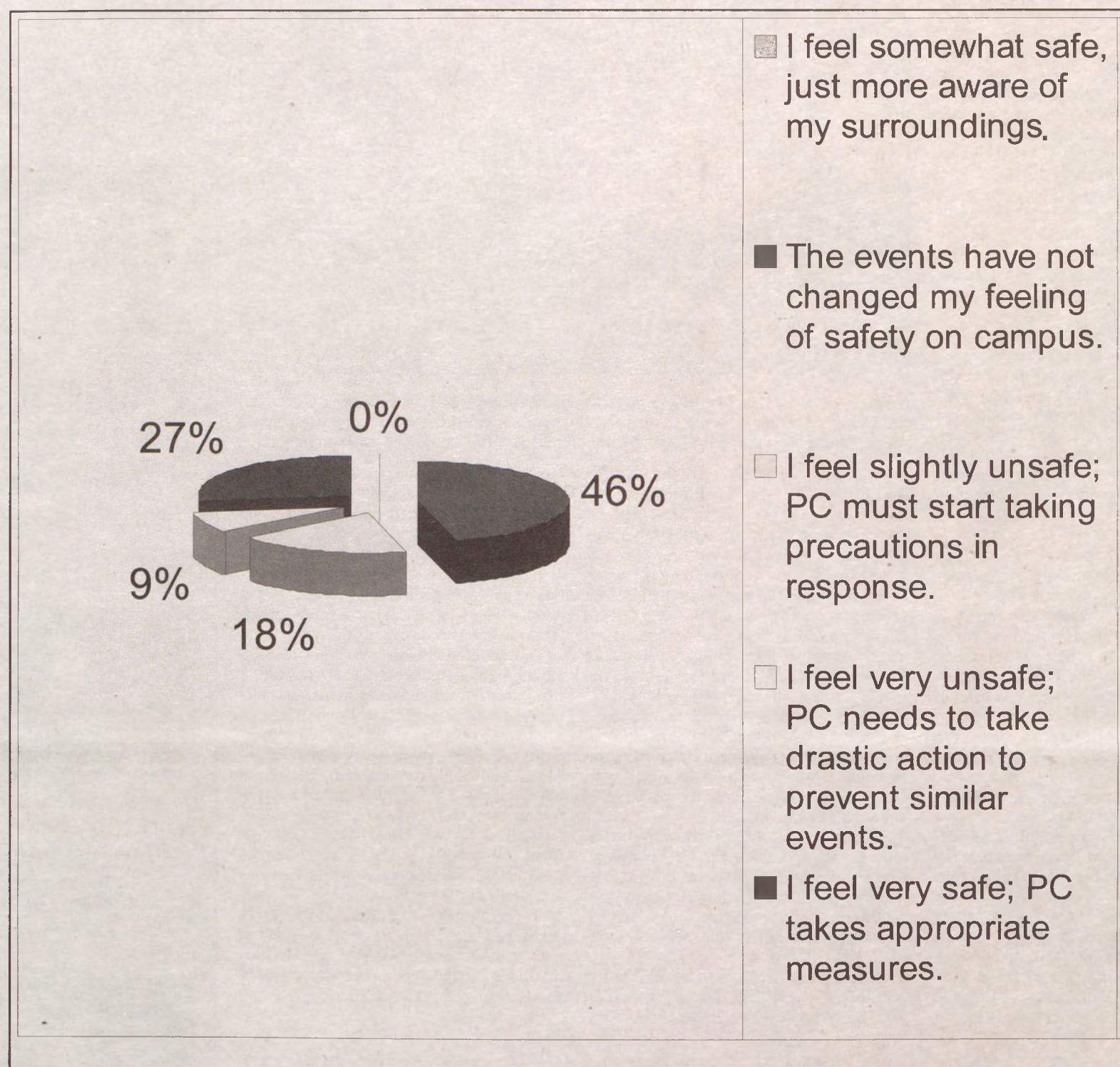
- Earn **\$14.55/hr** after training
- \$1.00/hr shift differential
- Opportunity to qualify for end of summer **bonus** (Average student bonus = **\$400**)
- May be eligible for \$1500 annual scholarship
- Opportunity to participate in Management Internship Program
- Pay rate increase for every year you return to Gold Medal Bakery
- Work only 3 days per week and get 4 days off!!**
- Schedule includes 10 or 12 hour shifts, evenings and nights

Possibility of part-time work during school year.  
Train part-time now to be ready for summer.  
**We will work around your school schedule.**

To apply, e-mail [gmbapp@goldmedalbakery.com](mailto:gmbapp@goldmedalbakery.com)  
Or call 800-642-7566 ext. 799



# *How safe do you feel on campus after the events at Virginia Tech?*



## THIS WEEK:

Do you think the Providence College curriculum effectively recognizes religious diversity?

- 1) Yes, the curriculum covers a wide variety of faiths.
- 2) Yes, the curriculum examines a variety of beliefs, but only within Christianity
- 3) There is some religious diversity in PC's curriculum, but I would like to see more.
- 4) No, there is no religious diversity recognized in the PC curriculum.
- 5) No, PC is a Catholic college and therefore should focus primarily on Catholicism.

*Vote on [www.thecowl.com](http://www.thecowl.com) and find out the results in next week's issue of The Cowl.*



## Sudan accused of bombing Darfur

BY MARY KATE NEVIN '09  
WORLD STAFF

A confidential United Nations report leaked to *The New York Times* last Tuesday, Apr. 17, accused the Sudanese government of flying bombs and military equipment into the war-ravaged region of Darfur, violating Security Council resolutions and humanitarian standards.

The report claims that the government has been painting Sudanese military planes white and stenciling them with official logos to disguise them as United Nations or African Union peacekeeping aircraft. The planes are then used for aerial surveillance, bombardments of villages, and the transportation of cargo, and operate out of all three of Darfur's major airports.

"The panel believes the use of white aircraft by the government of the Sudan constitutes a deliberate attempt to conceal the identity of these aircraft," the report stated.

Such actions defy sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council, which require the government to give advanced word of any introduction of weapons into Darfur.

The report, compiled by a five-person panel responsible for monitoring compliance with Security Council resolutions on Darfur, was made available to *The New York Times* by a diplomat who believed that the findings ought to be made public.

Sudan's envoy to the United Nations, Abdel Mahmood Abdel Haleem, called the allegations "a lie." He told the *British Broadcasting Corporation* that the Sudanese government is merely "moving these military assets to their respective places. We are not using these aircraft for any military function in Darfur."

The *New York Times* journalist, however, disagreed. Warren Hoge reported that in the pictures he saw, which were then posted on *The New York Times* Web site along with excerpts of the report, "there are very clear pictures of planes painted white, and also with the UN designation on the left-hand wing of one of the planes. And also a good deal of testimony from the investigators who compiled the report."



HRW.ORG

A plane owned by the Sudanese government, painted white and marked with official UN or AU logos in order to disguise the plane. A confidential UN report accused the Sudanese government of using these planes to drop bombs on Darfur.

"It's the credibility of the United Nations versus the credibility of the Sudanese authorities," Hoge explained. "I think on that basis the United Nations report looks pretty good."

The Darfur region of Sudan has experienced racial tension and armed conflict for several years. Droughts in the early 1980's plunged the area into a great famine, which incited competition between nomadic Arabs and black African farmers for the sparse fertile lands that remained.

In 2003, several African rebel groups accused the government of oppressing the non-Arabs, and violence then erupted. In response, the Sudanese government imposed military sanctions and police patrols in the Darfur area.

The violence was exacerbated by armed militia groups known as the Janjaweed, which have ransacked black African villages, raped women in an effort to prevent a future generation of the African Sudanese, and killed hundreds of thousands of civilians.

According to *Reuters* at least 200,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million have been displaced from their homes; the

United Nations estimates the number of casualties to be approaching 450,000. The United States declared the situation to be genocide in 2005.

The Sudanese government has denied any connection with the Janjaweed militias. The leaked report, however, is yet another indicator that it has supported violent operations in Darfur.

The government has also long resisted United Nations efforts to send substantial peacekeeping forces, compromising international efforts to alleviate the hostilities.

The report stated: "the prevailing insecurity in Darfur and the raised level of harassment of humanitarian personnel have conspired to seriously curtail humanitarian operations through Darfur."

While it focuses largely on the government, the report also holds rebel groups responsible for violating the resolutions and peace agreements.

It recommends tightening the arms embargo imposed by the Security Council and increasing restrictions on activities involving illicit weapons in order to further peacekeeping efforts in the region.

## Virginia Tech heals, attempts normalcy

BY AMANDA SILK '08  
ASST. WORLD EDITOR

Over a week has passed since the horrific Virginia Tech massacre. Numerous details, such as the identity of the killer and how the events transpired, have been clarified. While the grief and shock continue in the hearts of many, many events have been held to show support for Virginia Tech students as they try to pick up the pieces and move forward.

The shooter was quickly identified as Seung-Hui Cho, a 23-year-old English major at Virginia Tech who had a record of mental troubles. In 2005, two female students complained to local police about Cho harassing them. There has been speculation that the female victim of the first shooting, Emily Hilscher, was also pursued by Cho.

Further, Cho was removed from one of his creative writing courses because of the violent nature of his works, and the professor refused to continue teaching him.

The department director then began one-on-one sessions with Cho, and also reported his troubled demeanor. Furthermore, one of Cho's roommates reported Cho as being suicidal; Cho was then taken to a mental facility for a number of days.

Despite all of this, Cho was easily able to buy a 9mm Glock pistol and 50 rounds of ammunition from Roanoke Firearms. He was also able to pick up a Walther P22 pistol from JND Pawn Shop after ordering it online.

Police are currently investigating an eBay account, "Blazer5505," which seems to have been Cho's and was recently used to make numerous transactions. Police also filed warrants for Cho's cell phone. According to *CNN*, the affidavit said, "Seung-Hui Cho is known to have communicated by cellular telephone and may have communicated with others concerning his plans to carry out attacks."

A major development in the story came when *NBC* received a disturbing package sent by Cho after the first shooting. The package contained disturbing videos and pictures of Cho. Media outlets quickly made the information available to the public. They were later criticized by friends and family of victims for focusing too much on Cho and not enough on the victims of the tragedy.

On Friday, Cho's sister, Sun-Kyung Cho, issued a statement on behalf of her family through a lawyer saying that they were "humbled by this darkness. We feel hopeless, helpless and lost . . . Our family is so very sorry for my brother's unspeakable actions . . . It is a terrible tragedy for all of us. We pray for their families and loved ones who are experiencing so much excruciating grief."

Friday was declared a national day of mourning for the victims of the massacre. A memorial was held in front of Norris Hall, where the second shooting occurred. A total of 33 stones, one for each of the victims and one for Cho, were set up with a basket of tulips and an American flag attached to each.

People around the country were urged to wear the Hokie colors of orange and maroon as a symbol of unity and mourning on Friday.

On Friday evening, the first athletic event since the tragedy took place. The baseball team took on the University of Miami at Virginia's English Field.

Funerals for many of the victims took place on Saturday. The Virginia Tech marching band played at the funeral for Ryan Clark, the male victim of the first shooting. Seven people injured in the Norris Hall shooting remain hospitalized, and one is in serious condition.

Though they will never forget the tragedy that has occurred, some members of the Virginia Tech community are now looking for a sense of normalcy. Tricia Sangalang, a student at Virginia Tech, told *CNN*, "We all need a sense of normalcy, of routine back. This [is] our first step to moving forward."

While some students feel they are ready to go back to Virginia Tech, others need more time. Students have been given the option of withdrawing or taking their current grades as final grades.

For those who wished to return to school, classes resumed on Monday. At 7:10 a.m. a moment of silence was held near the dorm where the first shooting took place. At 9:45 a.m. a second moment of silence was held for the 30 students killed in Norris Hall. Several other impromptu memorials have been taking place throughout campus as well.

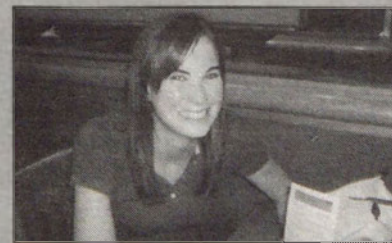
## Ask PC

Should *NBC* have aired the video of Seung-Hui Cho?



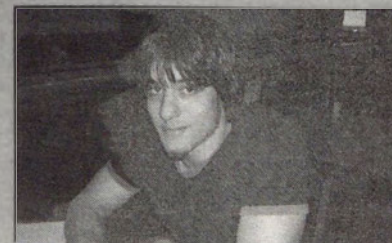
"Maybe it was too soon to show, but it's good to make people aware of what he was thinking prior to his actions."

Melanie Herbert '10



"No, because if I was a parent the last thing I would want to see would be that video."

Colleen Daly '07



"Yes, I think that it gives people a better understanding of why it happened."

Kosta Salemis '09



"No, because if young kids see it, it is too much for them to handle."

Christina Balboni '09  
(left)

"As long as it wasn't forced on anyone."

Kristi Balaschi '10  
(right)

COMPILED BY JULIANNE SPOHRER '07



# Week in Review

COMPILED BY MARY KATE NEVIN '09

### Local

#### 95 to close for 13 nights

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation has made another key step in its relocation project of Route 195: Building a leap across Route 95.

Starting this Sun., Apr. 29, contractors for the DOT will begin installing enormously heavy (up to 223-ton) beams above Route 95 to support ramps for Route 195, according to *The Providence Journal*. The ramps will be a key component of an interchange that is being built to connect the two highways.

Lane closures will begin around 8 p.m. and the highway will be completely closed between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. The work will last through May 15.

### Washington

#### Supreme Court upholds abortion ban

Since being signed into law by President George W. Bush in November of 2003, the Partial-Birth Abortion Act has been challenged by several district courts as unconstitutional, citing a woman's right to an abortion as established in the infamous *Roe v. Wade* case.

Last Wednesday, however, the Supreme Court upheld the Act with a 5-4 majority

ruling in *Gonzalez v. Carhart*, sustaining that it does not in fact violate the Constitution, according to *CNN*.

The act, which is the first law to prohibit a particular method of abortion, bans the practice of "intact dilation and extraction," in which the fetus is removed in an intact condition. Any doctor who performs this procedure is subject to fines and/or imprisonment for up to two years.

The majority opinion, written by Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, supported the act by focusing on the ethical and moral implications of this type of abortion.

"The [Partial-Birth Abortion] Act expresses respect for the dignity of human life," Kennedy wrote.

The decision was proposed last Monday, April 16, receiving little to no media attention due to the coverage of the Virginia Tech shootings.

With the highly publicized ruling bringing it to headlines once again, the issue of abortion will undoubtedly prove to be a point of contention in upcoming elections.

### National

#### NASA gunman blamed victim

America has heightened its security alerts and attention to gun safety in the

wake of last Monday's Virginia Tech massacre and last Friday's eighth anniversary of the Columbine school shootings. At the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, however, the depths of human cruelty were again made painstakingly clear.

On Fri., Apr. 20, NASA employee William Phillips took a revolver to work and shot and killed a fellow employee and held another hostage before ultimately committing suicide.

According to *CNN*, Phillips received an e-mail from his supervisor, David Beverly, detailing his "job deficiencies" and outlining a plan for improvement.

"The suspect blamed Mr. Beverly for being responsible for his negative job-performance situation," Houston Police Chief Harold Hurtt told *The Associated Press*.

Phillips confronted Beverly about the review on Friday, and proceeded to shoot him four times, killing him on the spot.

"Of course we never believed this could happen here to our family and our situation," said Mike Coats, director of the Johnson Space Center.

Spokesman John Ira Petty said NASA is conducting a continuous review of its security procedures.

## Oddly ENOUGH

### Restaurant taking "hospitality" to a new level

A restaurant-bar in Taiwan has taken a new approach to attract customers: A hospital theme, according to *Taiwan-fun.com*

The owner of D.S. Music Restaurant, which opened last year, wanted a way to express his appreciation for the great care he received during a stay at a hospital. D.S. boasts "IV's" suspended from the ceiling which dispense drinks, or "medicines" as they are referred to on the menu, directly into glasses. The tables are referred to as "beds" and the restaurant holds up to 130 "patients," who are served by "nurses."

There is no fine artwork used for decorating; instead there are crutches hanging from the walls and wheelchairs in the lobby.

-Kim Krupa '07

# "Girls Gone Wild" founder to serve jail time

BY NICOLE CHISMAR '07  
WORLD STAFF

College girls are not the only thing to go "wild" recently. The founder of the multi-million dollar "Girls Gone Wild" video franchise, Joe Francis, was taken into custody by federal marshals last Tuesday, *The Associated Press* reported.

Francis faces a contempt-of-court citation which arose during the settlement talks of a civil lawsuit earlier this month.

The lawsuit began in 2003 when seven underage women were illegally filmed in "sexually provocative" situations while on spring break in Panama City.

Rather than taking the lawsuit to court, both parties tried to reach a settlement; however, the lawyers representing the women described Francis' behavior during the settlement talks as "enraged." Francis reportedly began shouting obscenities and threatened to "bury" the opposing council. Although negotiations eventually continued with the aid of a mediator, they broke down again later in the week. As a result, U.S. District Judge Richard Smoak issued Francis the citation.

According to *The Associated Press*, Francis refused to surrender and angrily called Smoak "a judge gone wild."

denied Francis' appeal to remain free. Francis and his lawyer are obviously enraged by the denied appeal.

## Spring Break's Over: "Francis' behavior scantily mannered



ospolitica.com

I'll give up a billion dollars, but it will be under duress.

Joe Francis

Francis was then ordered to be "held without bail" at the Bay County Jail in Panama City, until his scheduled appearance before Smoak last Thursday. The Court of Appeals in Atlanta reportedly

"If someone behaves badly in a civil case, you punish them with a monetary sanction. It is alien to the justice system to say to a person who is not willing to settle a civil case that they should go to jail.

You take the case to trial," Francis' Lawyer Jan Handzlik told the *AP*.

In reaction to his issued jail time Francis said that he was willing to settle his case in order to avoid it. "I'll give up a billion dollars, but it will be under duress," he said. He essentially argued that any money he gave would become invalid in an appeal.

On the Providence College campus, Francis' "wild" actions haven't been looked on favorably.

Katelin Fitzpatrick '07 notes, "Francis' behavior in the courtroom is about as creative as his films... he definitely deserved his citation."

Additionally, Monica de Aguiar '07 stated, "aside from his atrocious behavior, he should be put in jail just for the fact that he makes those videos."

Colleen Daly '07 agreed, saying "the type of behavior that this man puts forth in the courtroom reflects the type of business he is involved with, disrespectful and inappropriate."

Francis, who is currently 34, makes an estimated \$29 million a year in revenue from "Girls Gone Wild" productions.

# Heartlander a breakthrough invention in heart surgery

## Mini robot developed to help repair heart scars; impetus to future inventions

BY JENNY ARVANAGHI '10  
WORLD STAFF

United States scientists have recently developed a mini prototype robot that can be placed in the human heart and perform surgery while the heart is still functioning.

This is a breakthrough invention that surpasses open heart surgery in which surgeons have to cut a large area of the heart and the heart usually has to be stopped.

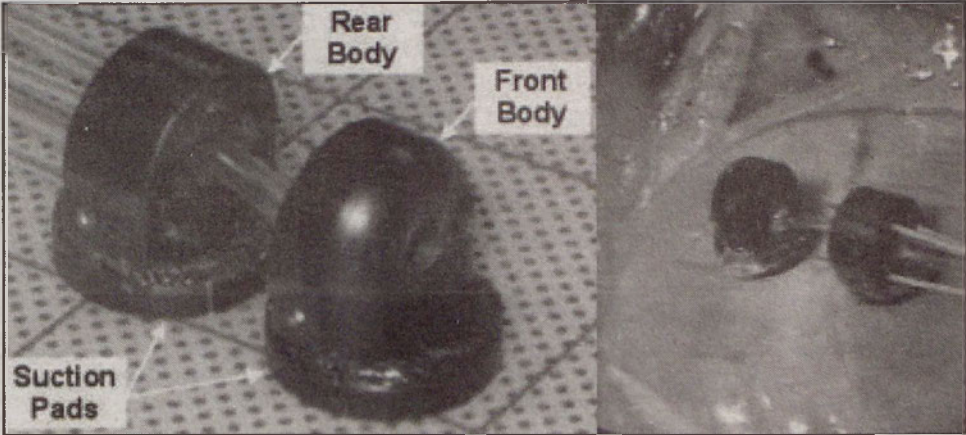
The Heartlander was invented by robotics expert Dr. Cameron Riviere with aid from colleagues at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Penn.

This extraordinary device is able to perform simple repairs without the dangers of surgery, such as injecting dye and attaching pacemakers to beating hearts. These consequences of heart surgery can have serious, sometimes deadly complications which can now be avoided with the Heartlander.

This mini robot is 20 mm long, half the length of a thumb, and weighs about the same as an egg.

It is controlled by the heart surgeon, who uses a joystick and tracks the device with a monitor that uses either X-ray video or a magnetic tracker.

The robot and its connecting tube enters the body through a small incision below the ribcage. A vacuum holds the robot in



Left to Right: Enhanced Medical System LLC's 20 mm long Heartlander robot on desktop. Heartlander robot "crawling" in an inchworm-like locomotion on the surface of a closed cheat beating pig heart.

place as air is sucked out through the tube that holds the 20 holes in each sucker foot.

The robot "crawls" along the surface of the heart and contains many wires that are controlled by the surgeon. By moving its two body segments back and forth it can crawl up and down the heart at up to 18 cm per minute.

The prototype, sometimes compared to a robotic caterpillar due to its inchworm-like locomotion, has not yet been tested on humans, and has yet to undergo many tests that will take until 2013.

This robotic device was initially tested on the beating hearts of four live pigs, and proved successful in "turning, walking, and attachment."

The Heartlander can only access areas on the surface of the heart and therefore cannot take care of procedures and surgery needed inside the heart.

Andrew Rankin, a cardiologist at the University of Glasgow in the UK, said in the *New Scientist* that although the heart can be accessed non-invasively through blood vessels, it is not always possible to

do this when there is a damaged or diseased tissue near the surface of the heart. He believes the Heartlander can be useful for these cases and believes it will be effective for this particular use.

Rankin went on to suggest that the robot can even be used for future treatments such as stem-cell therapies to encourage the regeneration of heart tissue.

Rankin expressed his enthusiasm for the new device saying, "You can imagine this device moving around the surface of a scarred heart to deliver treatments."

A patent has been filed for the device and a start-up company, Enhanced Medical Systems, LLC, has been established to commercialize it.

This company will be led by Dr. Dwight Meglan, a mechanical and biomedical engineer currently working with medical device manufacturers as potential partners.

Researchers are now working to improve the device by adding a radio-frequency probe which will treat arrhythmias, disorders of the regular rhythmic beating of the heart, by selectively killing malfunctioning heart tissue.

The scientists also want to add a camera in order for the robot to be self-sufficient. Heart surgeons welcome this new invention and they look forward to using a device that will hopefully make heart surgery safer and more effective.



## Europe falls off religious bicycle path

BY ANDREW SPARKS '09  
COMMENTARY STAFF

Modern Europe is like a bicycle rider who, running out of momentum, swerves more and more off track, until he finally collapses. The momentum and forward progress that should make him stable are Christian morals, decency, and vitality, all of which are now empty shells of their former selves. What then, has caused such a catastrophic collapse? The answer is quite clear: Atheistic secularism.

Militant atheism is a particularly unnerving, increasingly potent, and fairly recent trend in European atheism. Headed largely in part by the French philosopher Michel Onfray, militant atheism is not content to simply ignore religion, but in fact has taken a vocal and hostile stance against it. Once each week, Onfray speaks to radio audiences, rallying troops for the "final battle" against "theological hocus-pocus." As covered by the *Wall Street Journal*, Onfray states, "We can no longer tolerate neutrality and benevolence." Such is the theme of his books and lecture series: "Hedonist Philosophy."

Moreover, Onfray is simply a representative of the larger movement of militant atheism, which has even spread to strongly secularist groups in England that issue "de-baptisms" (a theological impossibility) and, quite surprisingly, a German atheist group called the "National Council of Ex-Muslims." In fact, this vocal and potent form of atheistic secularism has grown largely as a response to the prolific, deeply religious, and dangerously marginalized Muslim population, all of which is rooted in the historic Enlightenment "reason over 'superstition'" fight.

Yet it seems that the only way Europe can have fruitful dialogue with the increasing Islamic population would be through a well-placed and truthful acknowledgement of its essentially Christian identity. If the secularists would agree that religion has given Europe many great things, then true progress would occur. It is extremely disheartening that the European Union, which recently commemorated its 50th anniversary of its founding in the Treaty of Rome, had refused to give even a slight nod to Christianity and its influence in forming the continent. This begs the question, "What exactly holds Europe together, both in the EU and in the continental identity as a whole?" It is noted in the *Journal* that the common identity of Europe has been relegated to economic interest, that is to say, purely material, non-transcendent motives. This utterly lifeless decision mirrors Onfray's own philosophy, "ethical hedonism," based on the maxim "To enjoy and make others enjoy without doing ill to yourself or others."

This materialistic, secular, atheistic, and hedonistic philosophy, however, has wronged to Europe as a whole. The ill-effect is clearly seen in the demographic implosion and the cultural meltdown, as is exemplified by a new museum in Vienna opened recently by an Austrian abortionist, which exalts contraception and abortion as part and parcel with modern progress. Such horrid occurrences all across the continent sting any half-decent sensibilities, most especially those of the burgeoning Muslim community. The answer to Europe's woes does not lay in militant atheism. Europe cannot depend on the destruction of Islam nor religion as a whole as the solution to its problems. Such actions would only serve to further marginalize the increasingly agitated immigrant populations. If there is any hope for peace, unity, and growth in Europe, it is to be found in reconciling itself to its own religious tradition of Christianity. Only then can Europe regain momentum; only then can she progress; only then can she restore balance.

## Obama Ba-rock's Boston

BY MALLARY JEAN TENORE '07  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF EMERITUS

Providing easy access to education, helping victims of the Darfur genocide, and putting an end to the war in Iraq were just a few of the issues that Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.)

NATIONAL

fervently addressed during his speech at Boston University's Agannis Arena on Friday, April 20.

The event, which served as the New England kickoff of Obama's campaign, marked the senator's first public appearance in Boston since announcing his run for presidency in the 2008 elections last February.

Addressing more than 5,000 audience members—most of whom were students—Obama began his speech by noting the importance of the civil rights movement and the need for unity among all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or religion.

"Ordinary people can do extraordinary things," Obama told the crowd. "When they are united instead of divided they can rebuild communities that have been shattered and broken."

With a campaign slogan of "Hope, Action, Change," Obama referenced unity as the underlying force of change. "There are some things we do better together than we do apart," he said. "It's this idea more than anything that we have to recapture right here, right now." Using the words "broken" and "inadequate" to describe the United States' healthcare and education systems, Obama noted the need for a restructuring of the country's economy.

"We've got an economy that is doing very well for some—you've never seen higher profits on Wall Street. And yet... Americans across the country are living paycheck to paycheck. They live less securely than they ever have before."

Upon hearing Obama's desire to help society's disadvantaged groups—such as the eld-

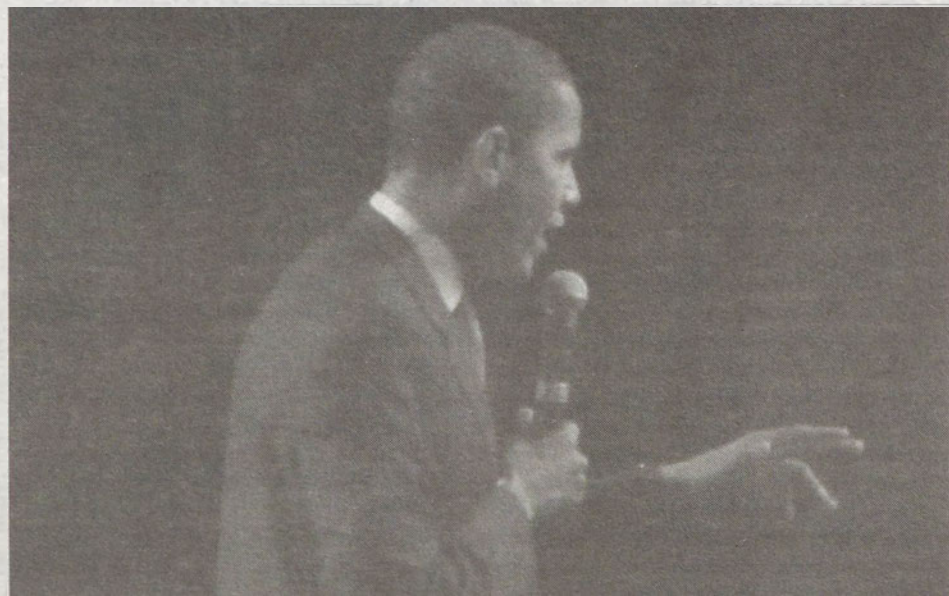


PHOTO COURTESY OF AMY BAKER '07

Nine Providence College students—Amy Baker '07, Daniel Cullinane '07, Devin Driscoll '08, Caitlin Ferrarini '07, Colleen Fitzgerald '07, Katelin Fitzpatrick '07, Matt Harutunian '07 (who organized the event), Frank Orlando '07, and Mallary Tenore '07—traveled to Boston to hear Barack Obama talk on Friday, April 20.

erly and students who cannot afford to pay for college—audience members loudly cheered in approval.

Perhaps the loudest cheer of the night came when Obama mentioned the need to help the thousands affected by the genocide in Darfur. So too did he advocate for reduced greenhouse gasses and an end to the war in Iraq.

"We've got a war that should never have been authorized," he said, adding that the authorization provided breeding grounds for terrorism. "And in the midst of this, we have an administration that basically says... 'you're on your own'" to the American people. People have been feeling as though they're on their own—and that's what we need to reverse."

For Obama, improvement begins with reversal and change. Though some may claim Obama does not understand the complexities of his proposed changes, Obama's "inexperience" could actually be

his greatest asset. Rather than be bombarded by the repercussions of a tainted political past, Obama can focus on what really matters: The issues.

"It's true I've only been in Washington a couple of years but I've been in Washington long enough to know that Washington needs to change," he asserted. "We need a new kind of politics. We need something different, we need to turn the page."

Obama's message Friday night suggested that he does not care so much about party affiliations as he does about the people and places who he hopes to transform if elected. Though his speech would have been more powerful had he shared the ways in which he plans to achieve his lofty goals, his words nonetheless suggested a sincerity that is often missing from prepared political speeches.

Obama exuded this sincerity most noticeably when advocating for the need to "build a

OBAMA/Page 12

## Dancing into a reliable relationship

BY MICHAEL RUBIN '08  
COMMENTARY STAFF

CULTURE



It is a fact that a guy cannot bring up the subject of husbandly authority to a girl without suffering severe facial wounds (believe me, I have tried). Even in church it's risky business. One priest told me that whenever that infamous passage from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians—"Wives, obey your husbands"—is read at his Sunday Mass, the women cross their arms and the men shrink down a foot into their pews.

In spite of this taboo on traditional sex roles, I still see couples falling into them when they're not careful, even the most progressive-minded ones—the women let the men take charge of things like driving, paying at restaurants, unsuccessful attempts at plumbing, etc. Never having been in a relationship myself, I can't say why relationships seem to work this way.

Of the explanations I have heard, my favorite is the comparison of marriage with a dancing couple—the man leads in both cases so that, rather than going in different directions, the two can move as one. Of course, this doesn't explain why the man leads, and not the woman.

As a dedicated investigative journalist, I decided to solve the question of why men lead in marriage in the best way I know how—by signing up for a ballroom dancing lesson with some friends this semester. The answer I found, however, is not as flattering to men as you might think.

Right at the start, the other guys and I realized that, if the role of leading were given to the better dancers, the women would get it, hands down. Their half of the room had years of ballet, jazz, and other dance training, and ours had a few proms and a Snowball. When our instructor told us to find a partner, the girls couldn't have looked more pumped, while we guys, still unsure of what the basic step was, began to pale. I suddenly knew firsthand what the fear of commitment is—the fear of a situation where I look like an idiot, but I can't get out of it without looking even more like an idiot.

Fortunately, it turned out that leading is by far the easier role in ballroom dancing. While the girls had to dance backwards and perform under-arm spins, all we were asked to do was shuffle back and forth and occasionally raise our arms to help the girls turn—simple tasks we still managed to perform with lots of grunting and sweating. I realized men lead because there is no way we could follow, and because everyone benefits when women, lacking sweat glands, have the role with more movement.

It also became clear that, though the men were leading, the women were the ones in control, taking our inept leading and turning it into something that actually looked good. I felt completely patronized when my partner would smile sweetly at me as she came out of a turn, even though I had clearly broken her arm in the process.

Yet I discovered to my relief that we men did have a positive contribution to the dancing. Our bulky frames were a firm center of gravity on which the girls could steady themselves as they whipped around the floor.

Immediately, the dancing became more fun for me—the idea that this beautiful and graceful creature in front of me actually found me useful, even in this small way, was a pleasing one. When the instructor told us guys, "Your job is to make her look good," my only thought was "of course."

From this experience it seems clear to me that men lead not out of superiority but out of service to women, both in dancing and marriage. Women are clearly better equipped to run a relationship—they never forget anything, and always win arguments. Yet for centuries they have let men lead them because they know that that is the best way for husbands to show their devotion to their wives. Then, using that same intelligence and grace they display in dancing, they guide their husbands while following and help them do what they never could on their own—create a home and family.

Marriages work when both people, rather than insisting on independence and equality, subject themselves totally to the other—this is why Paul, right after telling wives to obey their husbands, told husbands to love their wives "as Christ loves the Church," laying down their lives for them. When two people sacrifice themselves to each other in this way, the result is something better than equality—it's unity and harmony.

One might still ask, why does it have to be this way? Why does marriage have to mean submitting oneself? Not being God, I don't have an answer for that. My only response is that everything in life is a lot more satisfying when you don't try to make it fit how you think it should be, and you simply lose yourself in the dance.



# Tangents and Tirades

**Fired up over Virginia Tech.** I will not deny the utter tragedy of the event of what much of the media has been calling the “Virginia Tech Massacre.” I will, however, disagree with one TV opinion show host on her accusations of schools like Virginia Tech and organizations like NASA wanting to put more security in place, stating that their actions are “too little too late.” How could college administrators ever imagine that an event such as this would occur? It’s absurd and sadly, this is a precedent for future security measures. On a different note, according to *CNN.com*, Emmanuel College fired a professor who held a discussion on the Virginia Tech events citing that they could not “... tolerate any behavior or action which makes light of or mimics the terrible tragedy at Virginia Tech.” I find it utterly ridiculous that a person should be fired for making an observation that more people will die in a day of AIDS than those killed at Virginia Tech, for example. It is important to support the families of the victims and students, mourn the tragedy, and take preventative measures to ensure that the horrific event will never happen again, but it is also imperative to know that there are other things happening in the world. The 24/7 coverage of the replayed cell phone videos are merely a tool that are desensitizing the public, not helping it to get through the issue.—**Laura Bedrossian '07**

**Explanation breaks the silence.** As I donned my purple “Erase Hate” bracelet and black “Ask Me Why I’m Not Talking Today” shirt, I noticed I received strange looks. The vow of silence I took for the day gave me no chance to justify myself or my actions. The only explanation I could give those who asked was written on a piece of paper, which many quickly glanced at and shrugged. Wednesday, April 18 was the “Day of Silence,” the largest national student-led protest in the country. Students from hundreds of campuses took a vow of silence in solidarity with the silence that the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning community is forced into, due to discrimination, ignorance, and injustice. Amidst criticism that the protest was silly and ineffective, the quiet kids drew some attention. Raising awareness is the first step toward erasing prejudice. So while to some the “Day of Silence” may have seemed unproductive, if I made one kid think twice about using homophobic language or making judgments, the day was a complete success.—**Jackie Kramer '10**

## Letters to the Editor:

*Hope you like the warm weather, it's about to get hot*

I’m writing in response to the tirade by Mark Scirocco '10 in the April 19 edition of *The Cowl*. Though we have had three gorgeous days of over 70 degree weather and I’m looking forward to another, I assure Mr. Scirocco that I am not issuing a “doom and gloom report on the world’s end and the evils of capitalism” because of the past few days. Instead, my “doom and gloom report” (which in fact has nothing to do with capitalism, as capitalism has little to do with global warming) has to do with trends of warming in the environment. A few days or even a year, certainly do not illustrate any kind of long-lasting environmental trend. To get a handle on real change, one must study decades and

even millennia of environmental data. I understand that it was on the opinion page, but even opinions shouldn’t distort fact. While this letter is no place to define global warming and the evidence for and against, I will leave you with this: Early this April a very conservative Supreme Court issued a ruling in favor of pollution controls. The majority opinion written by Justice John Paul Stevens in *cnn.com* included this entreaty to the American public: “A reduction in domestic emissions would slow the pace of global emissions increases, no matter what happens elsewhere.”

—Kevin Lindsey '10

*‘Clubbies’ sets rap standards*

Aiden Redmond '08’s tirade about Mims setting rap back 30 years displays not only his ignorance towards Mims, but modern rap as a whole. Taking the time to Google Mims’ powerful and provocative lyrics, one would see the true genius interposed within the song. In only the third line of the song, Mims claims that he is so hot, he can rap about nothing and still sell millions of records, which is exactly what he proceeds to do for the rest of the song! Now if that’s not genius, what is? Then there is Notorious B.I.G., whose music is pointed to in the article as being the acme of rap music. Yet if B.I.G. is so good, then how come none of his

songs have been on the Billboard’s *Top 100* these past two months and how come I’ve never heard anyone of his songs played at Clubbies, (the place where girls go to drop it like it’s hot while still staying flossy and I go because I’m ballin’ and I need to stay fly)? Clearly, B.I.G.’s accomplishments have been nowhere near as significant as that of Mims’. Simply put, Mims’ hot beats and lyrics is what makes him hot, and Redmond’s failure to recognize and appreciate this, is why he’s not.

—Mike Springer '08

BY ERIC FULFORD '08  
COMMENTARY STAFF



After repeated network difficulties, PC finds a new registration process which is faster and more likely to get students the classes they need.

## Aborting the right to decide



BY AIDEN REDMOND '08  
COMMENTARY STAFF

SOCIETY

I am not the type of person that reads the newspaper or gets headlines from sources outside of *The Daily Show* and *The Colbert Report*. It was not until my drum lesson last Friday that my teacher told me about the Supreme Court’s decision to place a ban on “partial-birth abortions” that I really felt kind of dumb for relying on *Comedy Central* to keep me in the know on current events.

A “partial-birth abortion” is a grisly procedure that takes place during the second trimester of a woman’s pregnancy. It is a procedure that gynecologists rarely perform and is only practiced when the mother’s health is at risk as a result of the pregnancy.

When it comes to the subject of abortion, I feel uncomfortable expressing my opinions on what woman can or cannot do with her own body. What bothers me about this issue is that the Supreme Court now feels that it is *their* place to tell women what they are allowed to do with their unborn children.

I am not a supporter of abortion, and unless a woman was a victim of circumstance (i.e. rape), I would never encourage her to go through with one. The rea-

son “partial-birth abortions” are performed in the first place, however, is to save the life of the mother rather than to face the possible consequence of two deaths. The Supreme Court takes the decision out of the doctor’s hands as well as the mother’s, deeming itself the one fit to choose whether a pregnant woman is healthy or ill enough to go through with an abortion.

Banning “partial-birth abortions” is a poor stepping stone for pro-life advocates in the long road to putting an end to abortions entirely. By outlawing a procedure that is performed with the hopes to save a mother’s life that is being jeopardized by the unborn fetus inside of her, the Supreme Court is contradicting its own pro-life intentions. What separates “partial-birth abortions” from other procedures of its kind is that it is performed as the result of circumstance rather than personal choice.

“Partial-birth abortions,” like all abortions, are extremely controversial and ugly procedures. This is not so much a religious issue as it is one of political bias and warped morals that removes pro-choice and professional opinion from the picture when it is most needed. I will hopefully never have to deal with this scenario face-to-face, and I am in no place to tell a woman what she can or cannot do with her unborn child; more importantly, neither is the Supreme Court.

# www.TheCowl.com

## THE COWL

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE’S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1935

PUBLISHER: REV. BRENDAN MURPHY, O.P.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JIM HANRAHAN '09

ROVING PHOTOGRAPHER: RICKY LABONTEE '08

ASSOCIATE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: MEGAN GORZKOWSKI '08

HEAD COPY EDITOR: CARRIE TERBUSH '08

MANAGING EDITOR: RYAN ROBERTO '08

COPY EDITORS: MARY KATE NEVIN '09,  
PATRICK ALLEN '10, JAIME CROTEAU '09

NEWS EDITOR: BETH LENEHAN '08

ASST. NEWS EDITOR: JOE MILLER '10

BUSINESS MANAGER: RYAN ROBERTO '08  
BUSINESS STAFF: DAVE JONES '08

WORLD EDITOR: JIM HANRAHAN '09

ASST. WORLD EDITOR: AMANDA SILK '08

ADVERTISING MANAGER: CHRIS O'CONNOR '07  
ASST. AD. MANAGER: COLLEEN O'NEIL '08

COMMENTARY EDITOR: SHANNON OBEY '08

AD STAFF: TRACY RIDGWAY '10

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR: JAMES McGEHEE '08

WEBMASTERS: KRISTINA KRAKOWSKI '07, RYAN  
SWEENEY '07, MAGGIE VERNON '09

PORTFOLIO EDITOR: LIA ARMATAS '08

SPORTS EDITOR: ERIN REDIHAN '08

ASST. SPORTS EDITORS: MIKE SPRINGER '08,  
DAN OLLQUIST '10

CIRCULATIONS: DIANE HUDAK '07, DANIEL  
MURPHY '07, BRIAN CALNAN '07, DANIEL HERR '07

MODERATOR: MR. RICHARD F. KLESS

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR: MARY PELLETIER '09

ASST. PHOTO EDITOR: MATT LONGOBARDI '10

### Cowl Letters Policy

*The Cowl* welcomes guest commentaries and letters to the editor from all members of the Providence College community, as well as outside contributors.

All submissions must include the writer’s name, signature, a phone number, and an e-mail address where he or she can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Anyone whose letter is given consideration for publication will be contacted by the Commentary editor to verify the author and confirm the authenticity of the piece.

Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length, and only one will be published per week. *The Cowl* editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles for space and clarity. If there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, however, please inform the editor-in-chief. Letters to the

editor are the opinions of the writer only and do not reflect the viewpoint of *The Cowl* staff.

Submissions must be delivered, mailed, or faxed to *The Cowl* office no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Mail submissions to 549 River Avenue, Providence, R.I. 02918, Slavin Rm. G05; fax to 401-865-1202; submit online at [www.thecowl.com](http://www.thecowl.com); e-mail to [thecowl@providence.edu](mailto:thecowl@providence.edu); or hand deliver to *The Cowl* Office in Slavin G05. Call 401-856-2214 with any questions.

Weekly Subscription Rate is \$30.00 per year by mail. Student subscription is included in tuition fee. Correspondence can be mailed directly to:  
*The Cowl*, 549 River Avenue, Providence,  
R.I. 02918, Slavin G05.



# Heart of the Matter

## Global warming discussion heats up: Who's to blame?

*Evidence surrounding discussion not conclusive*



BY MARK SCIROCCO '10  
COMMENTARY STAFF

Since Al Gore began his global warming crusade, many in the mainstream media have gone into crisis mode, proclaiming the Earth's end to be no farther away than the end of a current college student's lifespan. Following the news everyday, one would think that the global warming debate is over. Yet many of the world's most eminent scientists are providing evidence to debunk several global warming myths.

Last December, Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, conducted a hearing in which scientists appeared before the Senate and discussed the media's coverage of global warming. After the hearing, Sen. Inhofe concluded that "today's hearing showed that the so-called 'scientific consensus' does not exist. Leading scientists from the United States and Australia denounced much of the media for becoming advocates for alarmism rather than objectivity." Testifying at the hearing were scientists such as Bob Carter, a paleoclimate researcher from Australia's James Cook University, who said, "There is huge uncertainty in every aspect of climate change." Carter stated, "in the absence of empirical evidence for damaging human-caused climate change, public attention is best captured by making assertions about 'possible' change. And of course, using the output of computer models in support, virtually any type of climatic hazard can be asserted as a possible future change." As a result of this lack of hard empirical evidence, misinformation disguised as fact is being presented to the public.

Other scientists who testified at the hearing challenged the claim that natural disasters such as hurricane Katrina have been caused by global warming. David Deming, a geophysicist from the University of Oklahoma, testified that "every natural disaster that occurs is now linked by the media with global warming, no matter how tenuous or impossible the connection. As a result, the public has become vastly misinformed on this and other environmental issues." Deming also noted that warming and cooling periods have occurred throughout Earth's history (even before SUVs), the most significant of which is known by scientists as the Medieval Warm Period. The "Earth's climate system," Deming explained, "is complex and poorly understood." The Earth's temperature has warmed and cooled throughout history but only now is the change being blamed on man. As Deming claims, the cause of the earth's warming, now or in the past, is unknown and "there is no sound scientific basis for predicting future climate change

with any degree of certainty."

Richard S. Lindzen, the Alfred P. Sloan Professor of Meteorology at MIT, recently published an article in *Newsweek* in which he wrote, "There is no compelling evidence that the warming trend we've seen will amount to anything close to catastrophe." Like Deming, Lindzen argues: "What most commentators—and many scientists—seem to miss is that the only thing we can say with certainty about climate is that it changes," saying that "sea levels, for example, have been increasing since the end of the last ice age," and that "one overlooked mystery is why temperatures are not already higher." But whether there is a significant warming trend is questionable. The country has just experienced the coldest April in over 100 years. If the planet is truly heating up, why would the first three weeks in April be so cold?

The problem other scientists have with the global warming debate is that it is being used as a political weapon. Glenn Shaw, an atmospheric scientist and professor of physics at the Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks, recently wrote "Science is often muddled when it is working on difficult new problems and most especially when the problems start to become political. And the issue of global warming has become massively political." Now scientists who challenge the idea of man-made global warming are being silenced by those who promote it as part of a political agenda. Shaw writes, "I'm skeptical despite the fact that 'everybody knows that the science is in.' The science isn't even close to being in... Try getting funding while being a skeptic."

The same crowd that is currently touting the dangers of global warming ironically, was warning the world of a new ice age 30 years ago. Shaw notes that "in the 1970s *Newsweek*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, the *New York Times* and countless books and articles were warning of the dangers of global cooling." Global warming seems to be the new craze that the mainstream media has latched itself onto.

More and more prominent scientists are being attacked for not following the party line when it comes to global warming. Many in the scientific community are coming to the conclusion that there are a lot of things we do not know about the earth, and why it warms and cools is one of them. Scientists such as Lindzen, Deming, Carter, and Shaw, among others, have called for the world to take a second look at what global warming really means and to not buy into the doom and gloom hysteria caused by Al Gore and the mainstream media.

Picture Credit: <http://www.cnn.com/EARTH>

*We are to blame and it is time to make a change*



BY BETSY ROULEAU '08  
COMMENTARY STAFF

I don't know about you, but I have really been enjoying these past few days of sunshine, especially after a March (...February...wait, January too!) of dreariness. There is something nice about wearing a winter jacket one day and flip-flops the next. But these climate changes tell me something is up with our planet.

In keeping with the numerous Earth Day events at Providence College sponsored by Student Congress, Urban Action, the Feinstein Institute, and Friars Club this past Saturday, I'm going to talk about the Earth.

For those of you who are tempted to skip to the next article because you've heard enough out of Al Gore, Oprah, and those crunchy-granola types about global warming, hold on. Clearly, I am not Al

Gore or Oprah, and I promise that my granola bars are far from crunchy. I am a student with a conscience at a small, Catholic, liberal arts college—wait, you are too!

It's hard to get through your theology requirements at Providence College without hearing the words "stewardship" and "solidarity" tossed around. But if you've managed to escape Catholic Social Thought in favor of Old Testament 101, stewardship means taking care of the world that has been given to us. Solidarity means shared responsibility among members of a group—namely, the human race. Keep these words in mind for a few minutes.

Okay, moving on. 2006 was the hottest year that the United States has ever recorded. There have been worldwide droughts, including some that have dried up entire riverbeds, like the Jialingjiang in China. California and Arizona have experienced devastating wildfires in the past several years. The ice in the Arctic Ocean is rapidly thinning. Sea levels are rising, resulting in erosion on many of the nation's beaches. Katrina. Even some of the most ardent anti-global warming activists have begun to realize that something is happening. Many people say that this is just another phase in history in which the Earth will fluctuate and will take care of itself. This may just be another phase in history, but we have caused it. Start thinking stewardship.

We all know the basics: Global warming is caused by carbon dioxide emissions from the burning of fossil fuels. This carbon dioxide collects in the air and traps the sun's heat. The regions that are responsible

for the most carbon dioxide emissions are North America, Europe, and Asia. Not surprising. The regions that emit the least carbon dioxide emissions are Central and South America, Africa, and the Middle East. That's not surprising either, is it? After the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (a panel of 1,000 scientists from 74 nations) met in early April, they released a statement saying that the poorest of the poor will suffer from global warming. The report gave an interesting example: By 2020, up to 250 million individuals in Africa may suffer disease and dehydration due to climate changes that cause drought. Another example: 25 million people in Papua New Guinea have already evacuated their homes due to mounting sea levels. Think solidarity.

Global warming is not just an issue for scientists to toss around. It's not enough to leave it to the Supreme Court to regulate carbon dioxide emissions. Incidentally, the Bush administration disagrees, saying that this ruling may burden the U.S. economy and make it less competitive, because other industrial nations continue to emit increasing levels of carbon dioxide. Since the United States produces the most carbon dioxide, we need to take the first step to reduce this output. Stewardship and solidarity need to come into play for the average person—or for the average college student with a conscience. We need to begin to make small choices that can lead to big changes.

Not too long ago, my roommate rebuked me for my environmentally-unfriendly facial wipes. She was right. I think the Providence College community has already started to realize the concept of stewardship, as evidenced by participating in the multiple cleanups that took place across Rhode Island. But there are tiny things that we can all do. Let's follow the lead of companies like DuPont and General Electric, just a few of the many companies that are going green. Let's start by using funky, energy-saving light bulbs—or "compact fluorescent light bulbs" to those silly, crunchy-granola types. Sealing, or better insulating windows and doors in homes can save energy and therefore reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Turn off your computer when you're not using it. Carpool. Shop for groceries with reusable cloth bags instead of non-biodegradable plastic bags. The band Guster uses biodiesel, a clean-burning fuel made from renewable resources such as vegetable oil. Go to one of their concerts.

I participated in one of those cleanups last Earth Day. A young boy named Julio helped me pry plastic bags and Styrofoam cups from the brambles at the edge of Merino Park in Providence. As a member of a community organization called Young Heroes, Julio is taking a stand for the environment. At age 10, Julio knows about carbon dioxide emissions and the melting glaciers. This is Julio's world. This is our world. Julio's got this stewardship thing down. Can we follow his example?

## Obama: '08 presidential candidate makes a strong first impression

continued from page 10

new America," If we strive to reconstruct our country, he said, "we will transform how we are viewed around the world."

In light of this necessary transformation, Obama boldly claimed that if elected, he plans to create a universal healthcare plan by the end of his first term as president. Though highly ambitious, this goal would not be unrealistic if given the support it deserves.

Sociologists such as David Hilfiker have made similar claims in the past, asserting that universal healthcare is not only possible, but entirely necessary to fight the war on poverty. Healthcare has

become largely employer-based, though fewer and fewer companies are offering it. Few low-wage employers provide health insurance, and the low-income employees who do receive it are often faced with unaffordable co-payments.

Furthermore, government expenditures are unfairly distributed. According to statistics from the War Resisters' Web site, of the government's \$2.6 trillion budget in 2006, \$727 billion went to the military (not including expenses in Iraq and Afghanistan), \$587 billion went to social security, \$431 billion went to Medicare, and \$376 billion went to interest on debt. Only \$35 billion, or 13.4 percent, went to the Department of Housing

and Urban Development to fund support for homelessness. Though \$35 billion may sound like a lot, comparatively speaking, it is minimal.

Considering the lack of funding for fighting poverty, a universal healthcare plan is in order. As Hilfiker asserts in his 2002 book *Urban Injustice*, "On their own, low-income, working-class, and even middle-class people simply cannot afford family health care premiums that average more than \$7,000 a year. With one in six Americans currently uninsured and the trend away from employer-sponsored coverage, the only reasonable option seems to be some form of national health insurance."

Though slightly outdated, Hilfiker's

assessment of U.S. healthcare still rings true in 2007. What will come of 2008 will depend largely upon the vision of our next president. Will our next leader be willing to change what is corrupt, and rebuild what has been broken? Will he or she be able to hear the plights of the disadvantaged and amplify their voices in the community?

Judging from his speech, Obama has already carefully considered these questions, and seems ready to tackle them head on with hope, action, and change.

"At every juncture in American history, change has happened because of you," Obama told students. And so this comment begs the question: Just how willing are we to change?



*Didn't get that job at Dunder-Mifflin?*

**Want to work in the world's  
next best office?**



Then come join *The Cowl* . . .  
***The Office*** of Slavin G05!

[www.TheCowl.com](http://www.TheCowl.com)



# A director's tale

*Carolyn Blais '07 talks about her experience writing and directing her independent theater production, Tales From Atop The Beanstalk*

BY ANNEMARIE GRANSTRAND '09  
A&E STAFF

Aside from perhaps the waiting room at a pediatric dental office, one isn't likely to come across both *People* magazine and tales of Mother Goose on the same coffee

## STUDENT FEATURE

table. Unless you are Carolyn Blais. A double major in theater and English, Blais '07

wrote and is directing the upcoming production of *Tales From Atop The Beanstalk*.

Her goal in writing this play was to combine the familiar fairy tales of our childhood with the already quite laughable pop culture. "I wanted to create something that would attract an audience of all ages," Blais said.

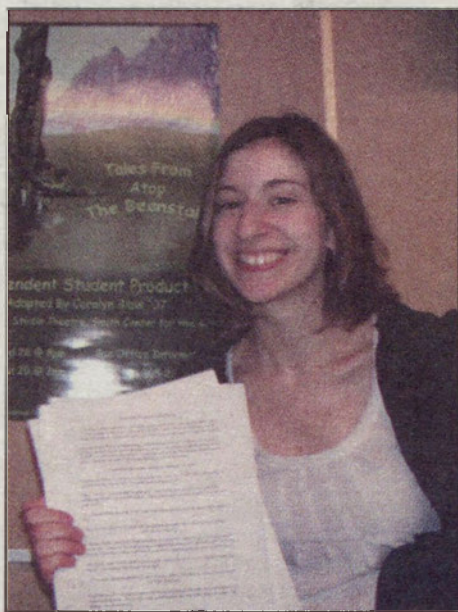
At the beginning of the semester, Blais pitched the idea to her advisor. After months of tweaking and perfecting the script, Blais held open auditions. The audition process focused mainly on one task.—take a nursery rhyme character of your choice and make it your own. After toning down the Providence College version of the Ugly Duckling, who becomes more attractive as a Monday night at Louie's goes on, Blais hopes she has discovered an entertaining balance of charm and wit that will attract a wide range of theatergoers.

College kids appreciate a special type of humor. On a campus where most amusing conversations are punctuated with the saving line of, "That's what she said," how would PC students be attracted to a play of Mother Goose tales? Blais said she aimed to mix in pop-culture references that she hopes will allow for an uncommon type of comedy. "It's not vulgar college humor, but it's great for those our age who are game for a laugh."

Instead of attending the ball, Blais' concocted characters are headed for the National Bowling Competition. The Britney Spears inspired pop princess helps transform K-Frog into a rapping prince while Little Red Running Shorts whizzes by. Blais enjoyed mixing the world of tabloids and nursery rhymes.

Working with a cast of eight underclassmen, Blais cannot be a strict nit-picking director. "She knows what she wants but still listens to us," said Sarah Bedard '09, a player in Blais' production, of her director. Bedard commends Blais' acknowledgement for the wisdom of crowds: "She provides a very free environment."

The cast members play off of each other well because they have been clocking many hours each week together in the Smith Center since practices began about a month ago. But compared to larger productions, Bedard doesn't consider it as that



**Bedtime stories for the college crowd:** Carolyn Blais (above) wrote and directed her play, *Tales From Atop The Beanstalk*, as part of an independent study for her theater major. The play combines familiar fairy tales with pop culture in an attempt to attract audiences of all ages.

difficult of a time commitment. Like their fellow classmates in the theater department, Bedard and Blais are forced to achieve the delicate balance of school work, rehearsal, and social life.

Blais concedes that being inside the Smith Center for seemingly endless hours when we have beautiful weekends like this past one isn't her favorite thing in the world. "As a senior, my Saturdays are numbered, but I don't regret it."

She is aware of the responsibility that accompanies a student production. Not only is Blais the director of the play, but she also shouldered the painstaking process of writing the entire script. Reporting to her advisor, Mary Farrell, periodically to show signs of progress, Blais made this project an independent study of hers. "It's like this is my thesis," Blais says.

Although she now has some experience as a director at Providence, Blais also enjoys acting. Last year, she was abroad in Dublin and directed there. Soaking in the atmosphere, Blais came to appreciate Irish authors and plays. Being overseas for all of her junior year and practically living in the Smith Center this year, you should not be as shocked to learn that Blais hasn't been to Ray Cafeteria since her sophomore year. (Maybe someone should notify her about the fantastic porcelain bowl development.) The massive amount of hours Blais spends



PHOTOS BY TODD PAGE '08/The Cowl

in the Smith Center is another piece of proof that those in the theater department, compared to other majors, devote more time to their area of study.

But this is not to say that Blais is not enjoying herself thoroughly and relishing her remaining weeks of college theater. She is aware of how difficult it would be to continue acting and directing outside of college. "I'm not about to move to New York City and waitress my life away," Blais reasons. But she finds theater quite fulfilling and if given the chance would continue as an actress or director after

commencement.

"This whole experience is well worth it," Blais said. "I'm really proud of this work." After a taxing semester, the big weekend is approaching. On April 27, 28, and 29, *Tales from Atop The Beanstalk* will be showing in the Smith Center's Bowab Theater. Blais encourages those who appreciate a good episode of *Best Week Ever* and are interested in a reinvention of the bedtime stories we read before Lindsay Lohan could even spell 'rehab,' to take in a performance.

## In Case You Missed It...

**News in the Brangelina household.** Angelina Jolie receded to find a quiet place to cry on the set of the production *A Mighty Heart* after she was alerted that terrorists were planning to abduct her children. You may think the woman who played Lara Croft in *Tomb Raider* would take a more active approach to this news and go kick some terrorist butt. To make things worse, rumor is she is not getting along well with Brad. Until you hear otherwise, consider it nothing more than a rumor. Do not worry too much . . . Brad and Angelina have many more impoverished children to adopt.



# A barren land

*Stilted acting and a by-the-book plot make In the Land of Women dull and forgettable*

BY DEANNA CIOPPA '07  
A&E STAFF

Some time ago I wrote a review of *The Last Kiss*, a film I commended for its brutally honest look at relationships. I went to see *In the Land of Women* hoping to be pleasantly surprised, that Meg Ryan's brand of syrup and Adam Brody's oh-so-darling dorkiness would not combine to swallow me in a gelatinous blob of "cute." In a way, I was satisfied—this movie fell far short of cute. Not that it didn't try; there were several attempts whose feebleness can only be equaled by my attention span—Look, a duck!

The plot centers on Carter Webb (Adam Brody), a 26-year-old romantic who has just been dumped by the love of his life. In a contrived moment of clarity he decides to take some time to himself and move from L.A. to Michigan to take care of his aging and rather batty grandmother (played with wonderful creepiness by Olympia Dukakis).

There he meets a family of interesting women. Sarah Hardwicke (Meg Ryan) is a distant housewife torn between love for her family and the need to establish her own life. Surly/twitchy daughter Lucy (surly/twitchy Kristen Stewart) is apparently filled with such rage toward her mother that, although we hear about it in one confession after another, it never appears on the screen. Finally, Paige (scene-stealer Makenzie Vega) is precocious and wiser than her years (and most of the other women in this film).



WB

Carter soon becomes the fulcrum upon which the Hartwicke women balance their allegedly complex relationships and implied angst. Sarah and Lucy confide in him about each other, and he does his own share of soul-spilling. Cue the potentially fatal disease, unrequited love, and foolish kisses, and *In the Land of Women* waxes as insipid and forgettable as my 10th grade ode to the prep-school hottie (I'm still waiting, Josh Greenblatt).

Worse than the cookie-cutter plot is the fact that everyone in the film seems to know how movie-of-the-week they are. I'm not sure if it's Meg Ryan's dramatically different look now that she's been reconstructed (think Yoda's face stretched over an orange), or perhaps the lethal

injections of bacteria that have been shot into her skin, but at best she was phoning this role in. Granted, Sarah is supposed to be distant to her kids, but there are allusions to this well-spring of ambition under her cosmetically paralyzed skin. There is even a cheesy reference to sitting in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and finding oneself. And yet beyond the scripted words, Ryan could be reading the ingredients off a box of cereal (that is, if she ate food).

As Lucy, Kristen Stewart seems to think that being fidgety is enough to convey teenage rage. She pouts and paints and smokes and can't seem to keep still—oh the humanity! My inner despair is just oozing out my eyeballs! I'm so awkward!

Even Adam Brody, the quintessence of dorky cuteness falls flatter than my collection of Earth Day puns. The estrogen bath he takes should result in some sort of revelation, but he seems to miss the memo. He writes some ho-hum self-congratulatory letter to Sarah at the end that is supposed to vindicate their respective existences, but really it just highlights how forgettable this film is. (I think he says, "Thank you" or "You're a cool old lady" or "What happened to your face?" or something . . .) He mopes around and honestly does not seem to care whether he is onscreen or not—disappointing coming from this generation's bastion of pith.

You could go see *In the Land of Women*. Really, you could. And maybe it would strike a chord here or there. But get back to me a week from now and let me know if you remember one character's name, or can quote one good line, or have figured out if Meg Ryan is still a human entity.

GRADE: C

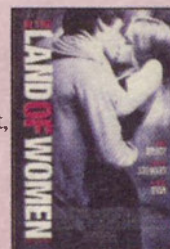
*In the Land of Women*

Directed by: Jon Kasdan

Starring: Adam Brody, Meg Ryan, Kristen Stewart, and Makenzie Vega

Runtime: 97 minutes

Rated PG-13



# A fully-charged kinda concert

*Third Eye Blind proved last Thursday at Lupo's that it has not left behind all of its former glory*

BY JOHN MANGO '10  
A&E STAFF

The bipolar decade of the '90s spawned some pop-culture catastrophes including (but not limited to) Power Rangers, boy bands, and Courtney Love. Luckily, we were also graced with Seinfeld, POGs, and post-grunge alternative rock. At the forefront of this musical genre was Third Eye Blind, a band that defined '90s rock as we know it today.

However, as Y2K rolled around the corner, Third Eye Blind was nowhere to be found. With the onslaught of emo pop-punk bands such as Good Charlotte, Simple Plan, and Fall Out Boy, it seemed that Third Eye Blind and everything it represented had died.

Then I heard that the band was going to be playing at Providence's own Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel on April 19. So, with the motive of nostalgia, the hope of witnessing a messianic rebirth, and a little apprehension, (the band is a decade old, and has spent the last four years probably inhabiting a dark hovel somewhere between its very small performances at very small venues) I purchased my tickets . . . and apparently so did throngs of other Third Eye Blind fans considering the show completely sold out.

I made it into Lupo's by 7:30 p.m. when the opening group, The Upwelling, took the stage. I didn't expect much from them and didn't receive much. The group's 45-minute set was essentially one long attempt at fitting U2 guitar riffs and

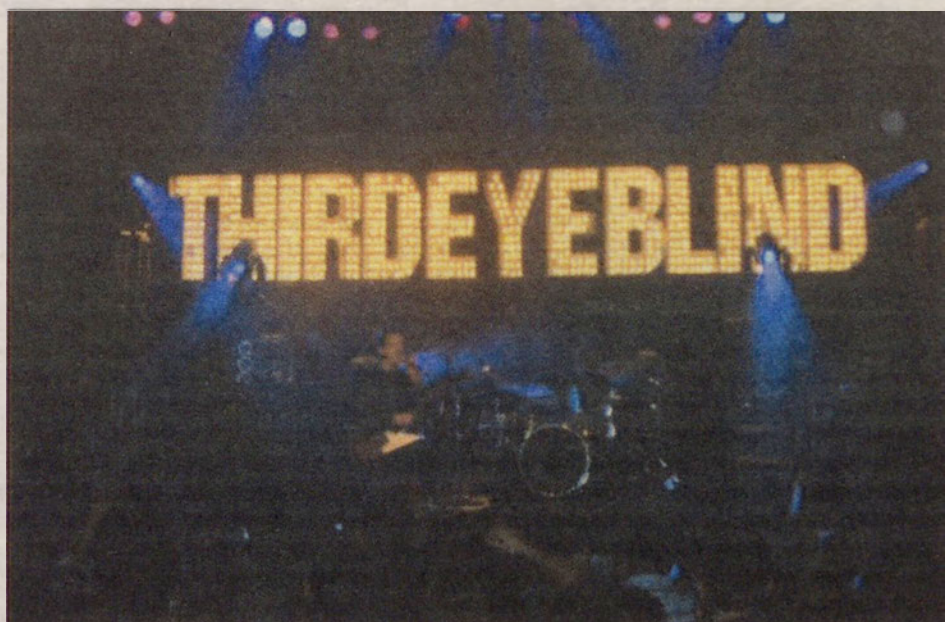
Coldplay vocals into an overwrought electronic pop-punk sound. I was unable to hear much of this, however, due to the tidal waves of reverb that drowned out most of the songs. But, I hadn't come to see The Upwelling, and neither had anyone else in the audience.

Third Eye Blind opened to an uproarious crowd with bouncing, energetic renditions of "Never Let You Go" and "Crystal Baller" off its albums *Blue* and *Out of the Vein*, respectively.

Frontman Stephan Jenkins, who commented to the audience on the band becoming a decade old, showed his age slightly when the band performed its classic underachiever theme song, "Graduate." He was clearly straining to belt out the centerpiece line of the song, "Can I graduate?"

However, this did not detract from the boundless energy he and guitarist Tony Fredianelli brought to the performance. While Fredianelli utilized his remarkable (albeit unorthodox) guitar shredding gift, showcased in an impressively eccentric solo during "Jumper," Jenkins inspired healthy doses of audience participation with his inspirational monologues. As if to complement or even one up Fredianelli's riffs, Jenkins directed the audience as the conductor of a massive choir all singing in praise during the final chorus of the song.

The band only unveiled one song off its mythical fourth album. "Summer Town," which is as sunny as the name suggests, is a catchy tune along the lines of "Semi-Charmed Life" and "Never Let You Go." The group finished a strong but short set with "Narcolespy," an acoustic "Deep



Live at Lupo's: Third Eye Blind plays to a sold-out crowd. JOHN MANGO '10/The Cowl

Inside of You," "Motorcycle Drive By," "How's It Gonna Be," and "Semi-Charmed Life" with a surprising "Stairway to Heaven" outro that certainly did Zeppelin justice. The encore of "Slow Motion," "1000 July's," and "God of Wine" was very electric.

Despite the short set-list and Jenkins' less than perfect vocals, the performance was indeed of Messianic proportions. Despite my hyperbole, the energy Third Eye Blind was able to create and maintain suggests that this tour really is the rebirth of a post-grunge alt-rock band that had seemingly been crucified by greedy music labels (Third Eye Blind, along with many other

'90s rock groups had been dumped by their former labels in an attempt to make room for the new punk wave in music).

Jenkins' innate rapport with the audience was entertaining and electrifying. He did something that is relatively rare for performers nowadays. Song after song, Jenkins was smiling. He was having a good time, so much so that it penetrated and engulfed the crowd. I strongly recommend you find some way to acquire tickets to the sold-out show at Lupo's on May 4 (eBay is a good bet). But hey, if you miss out on this tour it will probably only be another ten years until you have a chance to see them play again.



# Picks of the Week

By Shannon Obey '08  
Commentary Editor



## Movie

*Mrs. Doubtfire*  
Directed by Chris Columbus

This 1993 gem still holds the power to make anyone watching double over with laughter. Robin Williams plays a struggling actor and divorcee who has an undying devotion to his children and wants to remain in their lives although his neurotic wife Sally Field gets full custody. When Williams makes the drastic change into the elderly woman, Mrs. Doubtfire, however, he is forced to live a double life which leaves the audience in fits of tear-jerking laughter and with the meaningful life lesson that you never know who your babysitter truly is.

## Music

*Trouble*  
Ray LaMontagne  
RCA



*Trouble* is a compilation of love, loss, and a soothing voice that adds a relaxing note to the hectic lives we lead. Adding in an unexpected folksy element, LaMontagne has landed himself amongst singers like Howie Day and John Mayer in their early stages. *Trouble* is perfect for that middle-school slow dance, being consoled after a breakup, or even the first dance at your wedding.



## Book

*Wicked*  
By Gregory Maguire

Now a famous Broadway play, *Wicked* tells the tale of the Wicked Witch of the West through her eyes leaving readers cheering for the antagonist. *Wicked* was written parallel to *The Wizard of Oz*, and it delves more into the Wicked Witch's history, explaining why she is the way she is. Although the end is a bit drawn out, the rest of the novel brings you on a "not as magical as you would think" adventure with Elphaba, the rebel with a cause.

# Urban Elements

## Rappers don't kill people. . .guns do

BY RYAN BURNS '08  
A&E STAFF

In light of the recent Don Imus controversy and the tragic events at Virginia Tech, it seems like the media is once again attempting to find a scapegoat. This time,

### HIP-HOP FEATURE

hip-hop culture is at the forefront of many debates on cable news channels, and rappers

and other hip-hop spokesmen have gotten into defense mode.

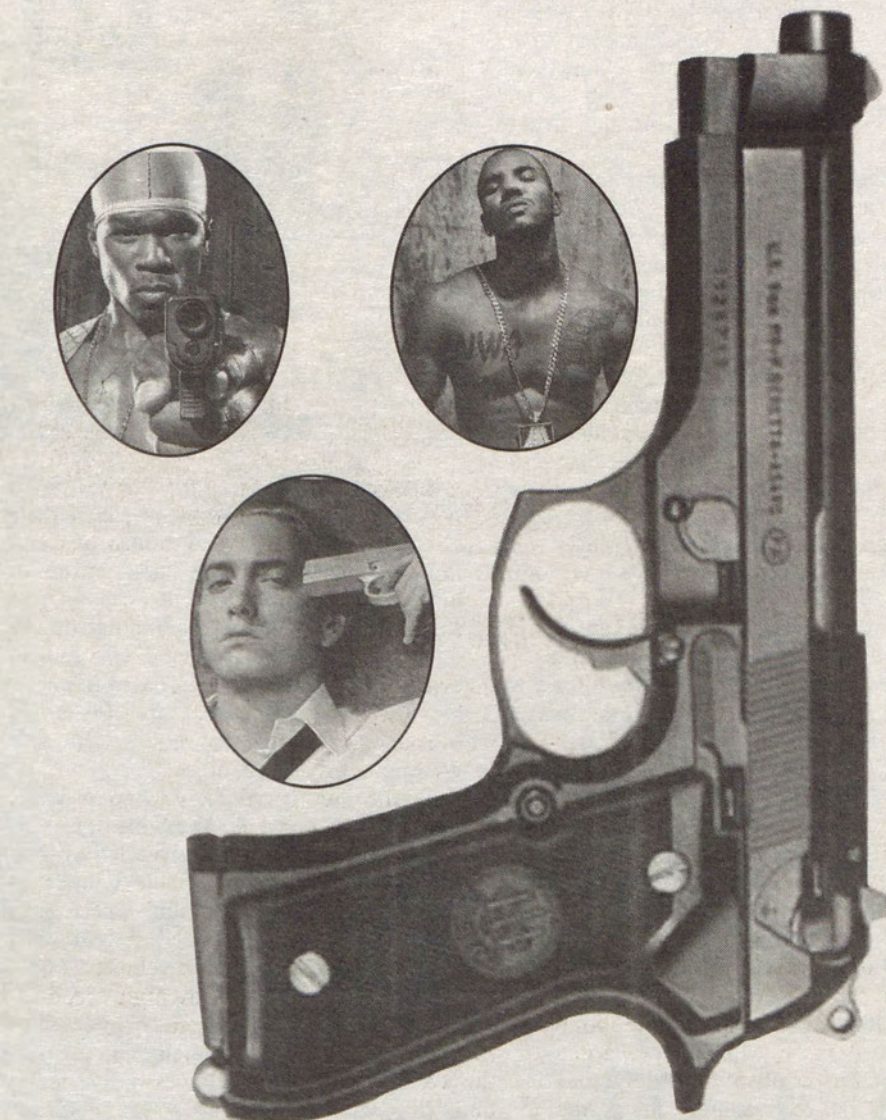
Listen, I'm not complaining just because it happens to be hip-hop that is under fire. After the Columbine tragedy, I found it ridiculous that Marilyn Manson was being held responsible simply because of the lyrical content of his music. What astounds me is how the public needs something at which to point its fingers and identify as the cause of the problem.

Of course, rap music can be edgy and controversial at times, but that is the only form of hip-hop music that you will hear on the radio. When was the last time you heard a rap song on the radio and were truly inspired by it, or reacted with any emotion whatsoever? Instead, we feel that we have to "throw some d's on it" because that is what we think is cool. Chris Rock once said, "I love rap music, but I'm tired of defending it." I feel the same way. It's hard for people to get past the negative image they are being force fed through middle-aged CEOs and handcuffed DJs that are forced to play certain songs.

And why is music always the first form of media to be blamed? Violent movies and raunchy T.V. shows never garner as much negative attention as music. What you have to understand about hip-hop music is that the artists in question have an image for themselves, and will do whatever it takes to uphold that image, even if there is no way they can live up to their gangster fantasies.

Most rappers have to produce what the market dictates, and ever since its creation, the more controversial rappers have been the most successful. I mean people break hip-hop CDs and go to anti-Eminem rallies while a "leader" like C. Dolores Tucker sits on her moral high horse and calls for a ban on the music.

It is also true that the defenders of hip-hop, when the debate commences, are usually people unequipped to have a conversation. Cam'Ron was on *60 Minutes* last Sunday and made a bad impression on the program's target audience. If people who do not pay attention to hip-hop music only hear about it on the news, their idea of what hip-hop is all about is unfairly biased. You never hear about any of the good things that rappers do for their communi-



GRAPHIC BY JAMES MCGEEHEE '08

*Hip-hop under fire:* Rappers 50 Cent, The Game, and Eminem (clockwise from top left) are a few of the rappers whose violent lyrics have caused controversy.

ties and their families. Snoop Dogg, who doesn't have the best reputation, coaches Pee Wee Football and gives children in his community something positive to do, while fostering teamwork, unity, and personal fitness. This tidbit of information won't be on the *O'Reilly Factor* anytime soon.

We as a society should look to ourselves for the answers to this problem. Hip-hop is just like the controversial rock music of the '60s and '70s. However, it seems that our parents' generation has the same reaction that their parents had when they would play that "noise." Instead of blaming music for teaching people what to like, teach your kids yourselves. If you can instill the most basic values in your child and teach him or her right from wrong, there will be no need to blame music. If someone is going to make an ignorant statement or murder someone, he or she would do it regardless, not because the United States glorifies gun

culture or disrespects women.

I tell my grandmother all the time that everything she hates about rap music I also hate about rap music. The content of hip-hop music isn't likely to change anytime soon, but these artists are storytellers who want to make a believable song, just like a movie director wants to make his or her movie more realistic.

This general perception of hip-hop, however, won't change if the mainstream doesn't change. The artists are on top because people want to hear them, basically because the slim radio playlists force you to like them. It is hard to argue for hip-hop considering the characters that record labels pawn off as artists. If you don't like the music, don't listen, or try harder to find artists that appeal to you. I love hip-hop music, but I'm tired of defending it.

So you think you know arts and entertainment?

## Take the A&E Quiz:

Before Ben Folds went solo how many people were in his band?  
(It's an easy one).

If you know the answer to this question,  
come apply to the A&E Staff in Slavin G05.





TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

## I'm not a creep, I'm a writer

BY KATIE CALIVA '10  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Friday, April 20, 2007: Raymond Dining Hall—Breakfast . . . brown hair, curly, swept up into an untidy bun. Slim, athletic build. Her breakfast is an interesting dichotomy—egg whites juxtaposed with this morning's greasy potatoes. She reads the *Pro Jo* . . . scowls at the news.

Two boys, typical Providence College ensemble—jeans, polo shirt, black NorthFace, Red Sox hat. They talk about the New York-Boston game tonight and mention that the Yankees suck.

Redheaded girl, hair tightly secured in a ponytail. Cute freckly nose. Biology books spread out over the table—no room for a plate or bowl. She has an exam today, is in a cramming frenzy. She gets up for more coffee. He steals her notebook. She notices as soon as she sits down, pays the ransom of a kiss, continues to study.

He then finds his friends, launches into a stream of expletives, some of which are very creative. He his haggard, stayed up all night finalizing his schedule, but then got screwed when it actually came time to register. His buddies commiserate; say its okay 'cause it's 4/20.

Pink. Oh my Lord, that is a lot of pink. I need to avert my eyes . . .

Saturday, 21 April 2007: Slavin Lawn—Stuartstock . . .

Long blonde hair, big brown sunglasses. She pours over the jumble of *Cervantes*' words as the sun pours over her petite frame and fair skin. She yawns, stretches out on the blanket that protects her jeans from grass stains and ants.

His head is a mat of curly hair stuck together with sweat. That's what he gets for wearing a dark suit in the heat of spring. Later; he is back on the lawn in khaki shorts and a Providence College t-shirt. He seems more comfortable.

There is so much plaid. At least six boys in my general vicinity are wearing plaid shorts with perfectly coordinated polo shirts. The seventh decided to be unique and wear a striped shirt over his plaid . . . poor decision.

A girl is sunbathing on a plaid blanket, someone is carrying a plaid bag, and several are vested in plaid miniskirts, shorts, and capris. Two brave souls are even wearing plaid smocks. I always knew that we were a bunch of preps, but this might be a little extreme.

He is tall, skinny, lanky. Curly blonde hair escapes his brown bandana, which I think may have once been his t-shirt. He sits in a circle of friends, magically produces a set of bongos. He ignores the music that is already playing, tries to override the rhythm with the beat of his own drum. He seems to be a free-thinker, a skater, a non-conformist, a hacky sack master if you will.

Black rugby shirt with sleeves pushed up to the elbow, just like his buddies. Medium in height and build, yet more passionate in temperament. He is a toe-tapper. He smiles as he sings, moves his arms and legs, feels the beat within every crevice of his body and soul. And, even if only for that moment, he makes every girl swoon.



## Senioritis: The biggest craze since the Backstreet Boys?

BY JENNIFER McCAFFERTY '07  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I am normally not one to follow trends. I refuse to wear Uggs, I have never seen an episode of *Grey's Anatomy*, and I probably would not be able to name Top 40 song if my life depended on it.

ESSAY However, I recently discovered one fad to which I am compelled to succumb, like it or not: senioritis.

Senioritis, of course, is the popular affliction of those who are preparing to graduate from an institution. Symptoms include a relaxed attitude about homework, papers, projects, going to class, and/or academic standing, as well as a greater interest in making the most of whatever time is left at the institution before graduation by avoiding all of the above.

The social world takes precedence over the academic world, and the classes that sounded so fascinating during registration last semester are now obligations that cut into the time you specifically set aside for picnicking on the quad or watching *Valley Girl* for the 600th time with your roommates.

I always thought that senioritis would be just like furry mid-calf boots, dramatic doctor shows, and Gwen Stefani's solo career: something in which I would just never be interested. At the risk of sound-

ing vain, I have always been a good student. No, I was not the middle school kid who asked the teacher for homework at 2:57 P.M. on Friday afternoons, but I was the kid who did all her homework to the best of her ability and always handed it in on time, even if it meant pulling all-nighters or skipping parties.

In a word, I was and still am a perfectionist. But, I have reconciled myself to this fact and have never felt remorse for my choice to spend Thursday nights reading for class or writing papers, while my neighbors curl up on the couch in front of the TV and pass around boxes of tissues and chocolate in preparation for Dr. Whatsisface's heart-wrenching surgery on the boy with Ebola and no legs.

In the last few weeks, however, my perfectionism has been introduced to a powerful adversary in the form of senioritis. I cannot say exactly when it began to affect me, but suddenly, as much as I would love to get my philosophy paper out of the way, it does not seem nearly as important as having dinner with friends on Thayer Street. The fact that I *could* hypothetically work extra hard in my final semester to get the .03 GPA boost that would allow me to graduate with higher honors does not seem worth the effort. And when, after a mishap involving mixed-up addresses, I missed my chance to take the GRE English Subject Exam, I did not find myself overwhelmed with bitterness. I simply resolved

to take it later in the year and went shopping for a commencement dress.

So, how is it that someone like me, who has resisted the supposed charm of Crocs, has fallen prey to senioritis? Part of me wants to blame the suffix "-itis"; that means it's a disease and I am just a victim.

Another part of me wants to point fingers at the seniors around me who had senioritis long before I did and cry at the top of my lungs, "Peer pressure is *bad!*" But, a third and more realistic part of me realizes that, simply enough, a person's priorities change when time is limited.

All aspects of college—academic, social, or otherwise—will be over in less than a month for us seniors, and at this point it does not seem emotionally economical to focus all our efforts on acing exams we will not remember in five years. It makes more sense to hang out with the *people* we will remember in the *places* we will remember. I admit, then, that I at least partially chose to give into senioritis. This does not mean that I'm going to neglect my schoolwork completely; after so many years of my work habits, I'm not sure that that is physically possible. Nor does it mean that I'm going to start wearing leggings; though, I doubt the physical possibility of such an act. But it does mean that I'll have a few extra good memories to take with me when my time here is done, and those will last longer than any *Backstreet Boys* revival ever could.

## Airport security—not so amused

BY LINDSAY WENGLOSK '10  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I am officially on the TSA's blacklist. I can no longer board an airplane anywhere in the continental United States. I can't fly *into* any American territory from another country, I can't fly *out* of American territory with the intent of *going* to another country, I can't grow wings and learn to fly, and I can't buy any sort of remote-controlled airplane—OK, so maybe I'm exaggerating a little bit. But I was waiting in line at the loveliest airport in America—that is to say, I was stuck at T.F. Greene airport, soaking wet from my most recent RIPTA experience.

I was waiting in line to check my suitcase and after happily confirming that I was flying into BWI (Maryland!!), I handed my bag to the TSA worker who looked like he just escaped from a gulag. I realized that my umbrella was still clipped to the outside pocket of my suitcase just as it jammed in the Expensive Machine Designed to Intimidate Little Kids and Old People.

"What was that?" Mr. Gulag muttered, shuffling around to stare, squinty-eyed, into

the darkness of the Scary Machine.

"My umbrella?"

"Your umbrella." It was clear he was deciding which airport to 'accidentally' send my bag to.

"Yep, my umbrella."

"I see." *Seattle it is.*

Once the machine finally got going again, the fun really started.

"Whoa, whoa, whoa!" Gulag Guy exclaimed in a very serious voice. "Whoa. I believe we have compressed explosives in this one."

I blinked. "What?"

Gulag Guy had had his revenge, and he knew it. He strode over importantly, slapping on some cheap plastic gloves, his brow furrowed. "Ma'am, are you carrying any explosives on your person? In your luggage?"

"No, can't say that I am."

"Uh huh. We're going to have to open this up and take a look." He obviously didn't believe me.

I shook my head as he unzipped the suitcase and part of my wardrobe vomited itself all over the airport. Gulag Guy proceeded to rifle through everything still in the suitcase in his quest to prove I was a menace to socie-

ty—and indeed I was. My newly-purchased Coca-Cola shirt was in plain view. The text on the shirt was in Hebrew, which looks a little bit like Arabic. Gulag Guy held it up and glared accusingly at me. He dug around some more—but all he found were books.

I had planned to work on my paper on the Cathedral-Mosque of Cordoba over break. Naturally, I packed a few books to read. Unfortunately for me, they were all on Islam, Islamic art, and Islamic Architecture. And my copy of the Qu'ran fell out onto the table . . . Mr. Gulag didn't appreciate this, either.

"Oh, those are for a term paper I have to write over break," I tried to explain.

"Uh huh." Still skeptical, he paused. I guess he felt bad for destroying the idyllic organization that once was my luggage, because he offered a conciliatory "Sometimes books turn up looking like explosives" as I waited patiently for the ordeal to be over.

He dropped a "You Got Searched, SUCK-AH" pamphlet into my suitcase while trying to jam all my wayward belongings back inside, gesturing with his hand that I was done and my suitcase would safely arrive at my destination . . . that is, if I happened to be traveling to Seattle!





*Four juniors studying abroad in Europe will check in with us periodically throughout the semester, narrating life from the other side of the Atlantic*

## Barcelona: A hop, skip and couchette away from Cannes

BY MANDEE ADAMS '08  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Perhaps one of the best things about living in Southern France is its proximity to other European countries. A weekend trip in Europe means discovering new cultures and having just enough time to soak in the experience.

**STUDY ABROAD** When seven friends and I decided to go to Barcelona, it took just one day to make the plans.

Thursday evening, I found myself lying in a "couchette"; also known as the smallest sleeping space known to mankind and I was bound for Spain.

After a sleepless night of rocking back and fourth, we found ourselves in Barcelona, a city of amazing architecture, fabulous shopping and home to some of the best Spanish culture and art.

Each day there is a food market in the center of the city. Though there are also these types of markets in France, I have never seen anything like this one. Vendors line up next to one another to sell the freshest foods such as meats, cheeses, fish, bread, olives, spices, vegetables, fruits and candies. The best part is that everything is natural.

The vendors are one big family; they work together each day selling their goods to the same customers every week. There was a man selling fruit who offered to squeeze some fresh orange and mango juices for me, and it may have been the most delicious thing I have ever tasted.

Aside from the market, Barcelona is full of breathtaking architecture. The *Sagrada*



PHOTO COURTESY OF MANDEE ADAMS '08/The Cowl

*Familia* is the main attraction; a cathedral that began construction in 1882 and is not projected to be finished until 2048. It will eventually be the largest cathedral in the world.

The modern sculptures that cover its walls show a uniqueness that is only found in Antoni Gaudi's visions, an architect who

designed many famous sites of this city. *Guell Park* is his masterpiece, and one of the most amazing things the city has to offer. Mosaic benches, walls, ceilings, and sculptures surround beautiful gardens of the park that overlook the Mediterranean Sea. Visiting such a uniquely serene place made me feel like I had

stepped into a children's book.

Barcelona is a city that has everything to offer. The nightlife is unbelievable, and my friends and I were sure to take advantage of that. While the Providence bars are closing, the women of Barcelona are still applying their makeup. The Spanish live on completely different time tables than Americans, and it is in this country that people wait until the sun rises before they stop dancing.

The shopping is among some of the best in Europe, including the artisan market that lines the harbor on weekends. Homemade jewelry, pottery, bags, and figures are intertwined with freshly roasted nuts and other Spanish treats.

Along *La Rambla*, the main street of Barcelona, we walked along to find artists painting portraits, countless floral booths and even more pet shops selling rabbits, birds, fish, and even chickens.

I spent three days there, and I still felt like I missed out on so much. There were so many exquisite restaurants that I didn't get to try, so many museums that were impossible to fit in. Each time we got off the metro, it seemed like we were in a different city.

Some parts were extremely urban, while others were a tropical paradise lined with palm trees and sail boats. Sadly, after taking a relaxing walk around the city on Sunday, it was time to return to our train.

After a four hour stop at the border and another night in what has got to be the closest representation of a coffin for the living, the streets of Cannes never looked so welcoming.

Barcelona was a perfect weekend trip, and I now await the last month and a half in my own paradise on the *Cote d'Azur*.



# Tiffany & Earl

*Making PC an emotionally stable place, one letter at a time...*



Dear Scandalous,  
There is a fine line between dressing for the weather and dressing as if you are going to PrimeTime. And if you don't know what PrimeTime is then I pity you and your sorry excuse for a college experience. But, I digress.

You can most certainly wear your mini skirt and flip flops as well as whatever form of tank top you deem appropriate, but as you look at yourself in the mirror, ask yourself if your professor would wear the same thing.

I'm the type of girl that has worn sweatpants to class so few times that I may even be able to count the occasions on one hand. I believe it is necessary to be presentable both in and out of class.

A girl that looks like she has just rolled out of bed will not impress men, and most certainly not members of the academic community. The definition of unrepresentable consists of the following but is not limited to: Smelling of booze, wearing pants with cartoon characters (this goes for large shirts as well), and shirts with any kind of jewelry or glitter sewn to them before 7:00 p.m.

If you find yourself exhibiting any of these qualities please run back to your dorm as fast as you can and borrow some clothes from someone with class.

But if your biggest concern is a jean skirt and a tube top, then breath a sigh of relief. Just use your best judgement when dressing and when that may fail, ask for a second opinion, since you most likely live in a place with more than one female.

## This Week...

*You can't put a price on wearing a tube top in the classroom... or can you?*

Dear Tiffany & Earl,

It's finally nice enough to pull out the Abercrombie jean mini skirt, sans boots and wear flip-flops without fear of sidewalk drowning. In that last few days, the weather has turned our quad into a bbq and football dwelling for half-dressed students and I need to know if the weekend is the boundary to which I wear my halter top and "short shorts." Does the dress code etiquette from high school apply in the college classroom setting? I would be horrified if a professor commented on my lack of a shirt, yet I can't help but feel the need to free myself of the chains that are a North Face and sweat pants. How can I wear what the guys will like and still maintain my class?

—Anonymously Scandalous

*The year is coming to an end, we think it's time you get your advice from us.*

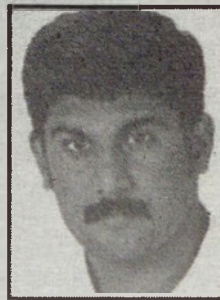
**Write to Tiffany and Earl!**  
[AskTiffanyEarl@yahoo.com](mailto:AskTiffanyEarl@yahoo.com)

Huh? What?....I am sorry, I wasn't paying attention. You see, since the weather has heated up drastically in the last few days, and *The Cowl* office is not air-conditioned the female writers have been walking around stark naked. So, now your question...give me a second...ok...yep...uh huh...OK. I have found your problem: YOU'RE PRUDE!

This isn't the 1800's—as much as I wish it were. You don't get arrested for showing too much ankle and I can't go around accusing women I don't like of being witches expecting "trial by water". This being the case you should get rid of ye ol' hoop skirt and Puritan attitude and don a pair of hot pants and string bikini top. You mentioned that you are afraid that your professors may frown upon your attire. I have to ask you, "Are you trying to hook up with your professors?" If you wish to advance your GPA then I say kudos, many male professors would enjoy a little skin now and again.

If you are a typical Providence College female then your aim would probably be someone like myself: devastatingly handsome, chiseled, humorous, intelligent and worldly. With this being the majority of the PC populace then I recommend you sexify your wardrobe—and by sexify I mean the less, the better—unless you are unattractive, in which case I don't think what you are wearing really matters. BOO YEAH.

Now please excuse me, I have to go back to ogling the Cowl staff, the new Editor in Chief is about to bend over.....HOT.



Tiffany

EARL



# poetry Corner

“Don’t be too harsh to  
these poems until  
they’re typed. I always  
think typescript lends  
some sort of certainty:  
at least, if the things  
are bad then, they  
appear to be bad with  
conviction.”

—Dylan Thomas

## Boy in the mirror

BY SARAH ARNINI '07  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Good morning teacher, good morning friends  
Let’s begin our day again.

Little prickles fall from the bright lights and hit my eyes  
And sounds of laughter hit my ears like crashing thunder  
And it makes me want to hide-  
To hide away in my little world  
Where I stack the blocks horizontally

The boy in the mirror has ocean blue eyes and sandy hair.  
He’s looking at me and it makes me nervous  
I turn away  
And he does too.

What’s the weather like today, like today, like today?  
It’s cold in January,  
And sunny in May.  
One two three, I am four. Four years, four days, four hours.  
Sit on the “T”, for Tommy, like me  
It’s circle time and I try hard to sit still,  
As hard as the chair the teacher tells me to sit in.

Be patient with me and I might surprise you.

The boy in the mirror looks at me again,  
He seems sad  
I smile at him and he smiles too.  
I wave, he waves  
Hello friend, sit still now!

Days of the week:  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
Today is Thursday  
Next comes Friday  
Yesterday was Wednesday  
Now I need a drink.

I will probably not realize  
Until 20 seconds of rug time has passed  
That the boy in the mirror is me.

## Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

BY DAN MEEHAN '07  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

To Kurt,  
you’re dead, ain’t it grand?  
No eastern european religion can sacrifice  
a science fiction master like yourself,  
and still get around on two legs.  
No planet can burn books faster,  
than you can write them.

We have lost what the most terrible  
of beauties, born to the lost skulls  
of machine warfare, deemed genius  
behind a dying Mark Twain  
twitch.

The Dresden bombs clamping shut  
the jaws and observatory eyes.  
killing the flower seeds of the brain,  
dipping the stem in blood and smoke.

Yet, goons and villains filled your  
comic book strip clubs of ordinary,  
alien people like ourselves, projected  
in unflattering flashbulbs, glimpses  
of our human race, decayed by our own  
denunciated destruction, no one left  
to right the path of the present.

Gift wrapped and goggle-eyed,  
used car salesmen and hawaiian shirts and  
a young boy trying to make sense of the swine  
and pearls, words of the earth.

And though I knew little of you,  
I loved you, for you were loved by so many,  
whom I loved in return and our hearts beat  
in the same hemisphere, with the Manhattan  
foot races leaving you to the dust, just  
another dead author in an Upper East Side  
loft, lost in the shuffle  
and the waves of the north.

While you’re sitting in the dirt, I know  
you are still singing, and these people,  
they are still writing, and these thinkers,  
they are still thinking, and these critics,  
you know they are still critiquing, and  
those same people that are still writing,  
they are still reading, and those readers,  
they are still living.

You don’t die in books, Mr. Vonnegut,  
you live in words and your words  
are the binoculars for a  
kaleidoscope human race.

## Join the Circulation Staff!

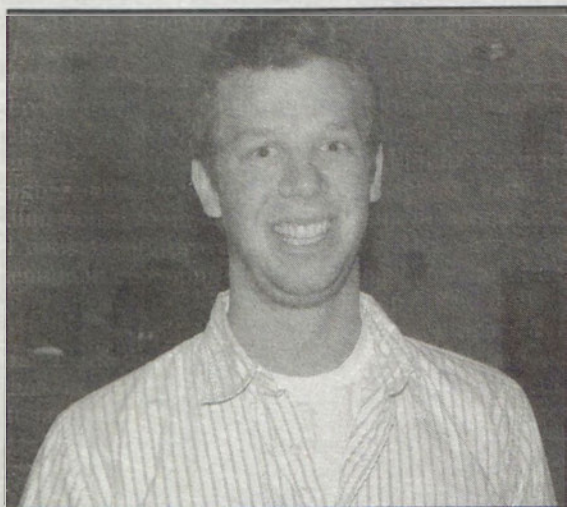


*The Cowl's* circulation staff is in  
need of dedicated  
students who would like to  
distrubute the campus's paper!

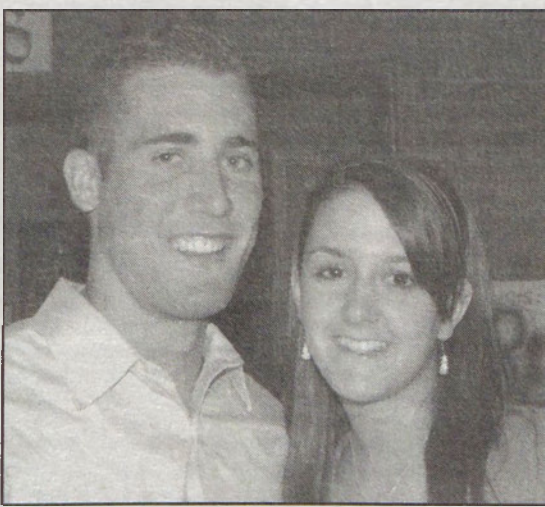
To apply, come by *The Cowl's* office in Slavin G05 or  
email [cowlads@providence.edu](mailto:cowlads@providence.edu)



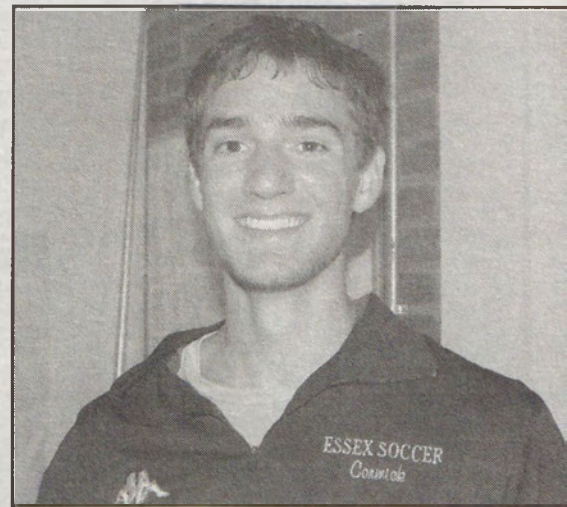
# *What is your favorite thing to do at PC when it's actually nice out?*



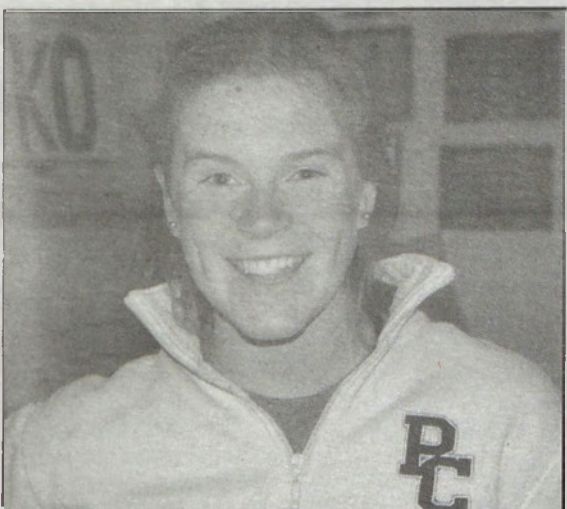
"Striking Paul Porter out in wiffleball."  
Ryan Loiter '08



"Find a shady tree."  
Matt Kinback '07, Kate Wood '09



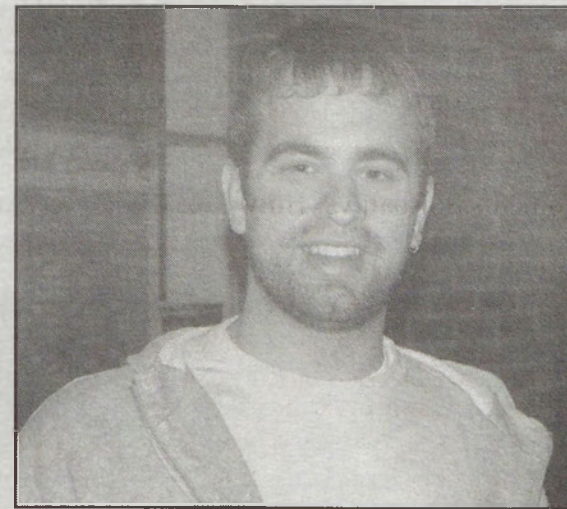
"Play basketball down at the park next to Noceras."  
Cormick Barnes '09



"People watching on the quad . . . or something less creepy."  
Maggie Quinlin '08



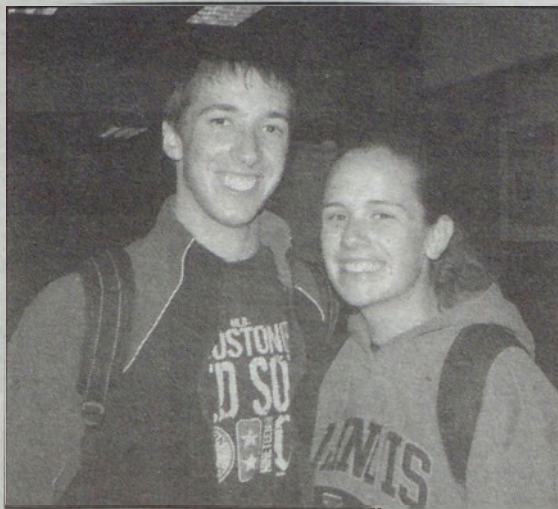
"Sunbathe *fully clothed!*"  
Maggie Quinlan '10, Courtney Nelson '10



"Chilling and grilling."  
Chris Crowley '08



"Taking a walk to LaSalle Bakery to get an iced cappuccino."  
Nicole Picard '08



"Play catch."  
Mike May '08, Stacey Broniec '09



"Throwing a Frisbee and getting a tan."  
Sarah Highland '08



www.providence.edu

"Watching all of my beautiful students bask in the Springtime rays. God, I love being me."

—Providence College



# Friars Scoreboard

Scores -- Standings -- Statistics -- Schedules -- Standouts

## Standouts



**Brendan Ryan**  
Men's Lacrosse  
Senior—Chatham, N.J.

Ryan totaled 10 points in a mixed week for the Friars en route to becoming the 20th Providence lacrosse player to score 100 points in his college career.



**Krystal Douglas**  
Women's Outdoor Track  
Freshman—Harpwell, Maine

Douglas led the women's team at the UConn Invitational on Saturday, April 21, by winning the 5000 meters. She finished with a time of 17:24.87.

## Scores

<i>Thursday 4/19</i>	
Women's Softball vs. Holy Cross	W, 3-1
<i>Saturday 4/21</i>	
Women's Softball vs. Rutgers	W, 5-2
Women's Softball vs. Rutgers	W, 4-1
Men's Lacrosse vs. North Carolina	L, 15-5
Track at UConn Invitational	Ind. Res.
<i>Sunday 4/22</i>	
Women's Softball vs. Villanova	L, 6-4
Women's Softball vs. Villanova	L, 1-0
<i>Tuesday 4/24</i>	
Women's Softball at Harvard	L, 4-0
<i>Wednesday 4/25</i>	
Women's Softball vs. Yale	W, 7-1
Women's Softball vs. Yale	W, 8-0
Men's Lacrosse at Manhattan	W, 5-4

## Schedules

Thursday 4/26			Women's Track at Penn Relays				TBA
Friday 4/27			Women's Track at Penn Relays				TBA
			Women's Softball at South Florida				2:00 p.m.
			Women's Softball at South Florida				4:00 p.m.
Saturday 4/28			Women's Track at Penn Relays				TBA
			Men's Ice Hockey vs. Siena				2:00 p.m.
Sunday 4/29			Women's Softball at Louisville				11:00 a.m.
			Women's Softball at Louisville				1:00 p.m.
			Women's Track at Brown				TBA
Tuesday 5/1			Women's Softball at Brown				3:00 p.m.
			Women's Softball at Brown				5:00 p.m.

## Standings

MAAC Lacrosse Standings (4/22)

Team	MAAC		Overall			
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Siena	6	0	0	9	4	0
Canisius	5	2	0	6	5	0
Marist	4	2	0	5	8	0
Saint Joseph's	4	3	0	4	10	0
Manhattan	3	3	0	6	7	0
Providence	3	3	0	3	9	0
Mount St. Mary's	2	4	0	2	9	0
VMI	1	5	0	2	10	0
Wagner	0	6	0	0	13	0

Women's Softball Big East Standings (4/24)

Team	Big East			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
DePaul	14	0	0	32	7	0
Louisville	9	3	0	28	19	0
Notre Dame	9	5	0	25	18	0
USF	7	5	0	35	21	0
Connecticut	8	7	0	20	18	0
Seton Hall	9	9	0	13	29	0
Syracuse	7	9	0	17	28	0
Rutgers	6	8	0	17	26	0
Providence	6	10	0	19	18	0
St. John's	5	11	0	16	31	0
Pittsburgh	4	11	0	18	31	0
Villanova	3	9	0	21	21	1





# PROVIDENCE COLLEGE™

## Class of 2009 Official Ring Collection

Order your ring:  
**Thursday, April 26th through**  
**Friday April 27th, 12-4pm**  
**and Monday, April 30th through**  
**Friday, May 4th, 12-4pm**  
 except  
**Wednesday, May 2nd 3-8pm**  
*Lower Slavin*



### ORDER YOUR RING TODAY

34-1398

## Track: Ready for Big East

continued from page 26

The men's team was also very successful at the UConn meet. Sophomore Richard Yeates placed second in the 1500 meters with a time of 3:55.79. Yeates, who already has already qualified for the Big East Championships, felt he had achieved a commendable victory on Saturday.

"I did my personal best and was very happy with the end result," said Yeates. "I'm looking ahead to the Penn Relays, I am hoping to run successfully and break my personal record."

Sophomore Charles Dewey captured a second place finish with a time of 48.66. In addition, freshman Tom Webb demonstrated a solid performance for the Friars, finishing the 3000 meter steeplechase in a time of 9:28.29.

The runners who did not participate in the UConn invitational are resting up for the Penn Relays, which begin on Thursday, April 26. A few of the runners are already qualified for the prestigious Championship of America race. Both the men's and women's teams were very successful last year at Penn, but, as always, they are looking to improve upon these successes and accomplishments.

In addition, the teams are gearing up for a strong showing at the Big East Championships in two weeks. Strong individual performances in the upcoming meets will hopefully qualify more runners for the NCAA Regionals at the end of May at the University of Florida in Gainesville and eventually the NCAA Championships in Sacramento, Calif. in June.

## Lax: Tourney hopes alive

continued from page 23

who has one of PC's top scoring threats all season, sent a laser from nearly 20 yards out into the back of the net, giving the Friars a 5-4 victory.

Since starting the season at 0-8, the Friars have now won four of their last five including four straight in league play. The surge in the second half of the season has been typified by the play of Providence's senior leaders. Midfielder Mark Bundra, and attackmen, Bennet Murphy and Brendan Ryan have lead the charge on offense, while defenseman James Courter and Goalkeeper Peter Littel have anchored the solid PC defense. Head Coach Chris Burdick has certainly taken notice of the strong play from the class of '07.

"Ever since we lost to St. Joseph's we realized that we needed to win every league game in order to make the MAAC tournament. The seniors felt that sense of urgency and took that out onto the field where they have been playing at an extremely high level," said Burdick.

The victory on Wednesday put Providence at 4-3 in the MAAC which puts them in a tie for the fourth and final playoff spot. The Friars have one game remaining against league leader, Siena on Saturday, April 28, which should figure to be an epic battle. Siena who will enter the game with a league best 6-0 record in MAAC play has been the team to beat all season. Providence, however, has been the leagues hottest team and is playing with a sense of determination that was completely missing during the earlier part of the year. For almost a month now, Providence has been playing in "must win" games which could give them the mental edge against a team that can cruise into the number one slot in the MAAC tournament, regardless of Saturday's outcome. Saturday will be the defining moment of the season and hopefully for Coach Burdick and the Friar faithful, the team will continue its hot play of late and send the men in black and white back to the MAAC tournament.



# Friars fall to UNC but beat Manhattan to keep hope alive

BY DAN OLLQUIST '10  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Another week has passed and the Providence College Men's Lacrosse team's playoff pulse is still beating.

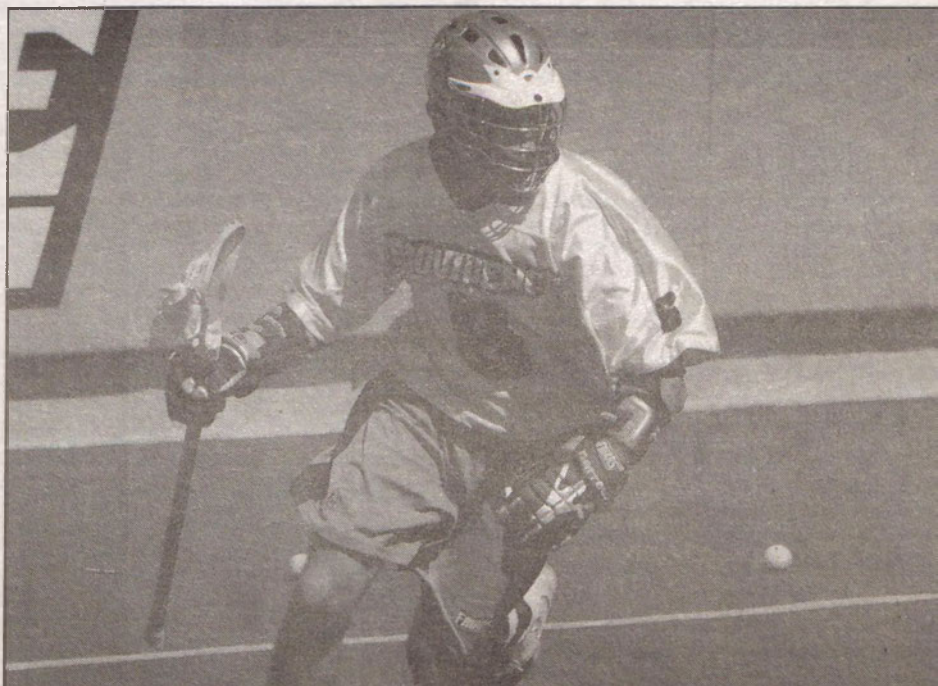
Last Saturday, April 21, the Friars headed south to Chapel Hill, N.C. to take on the No. 10 Tarheels of UNC. Unfortunately for PC, the

'Heels' ranking proved to be no fluke. North Carolina jumped out to a fast start, connecting on three goals in the first period and adding six more in the second, leaving the Friars with a 9-2 halftime deficit of which they were never able to climb out.

Providence played even with UNC in the third period, receiving goals from graduate student Michael Farley, sophomore Bobby Labadini, and freshman Jackson Fallon but their comeback attempt fell short as they fell to North Carolina by a final of 15-5.

Although the Friars were certainly beaten handily, not all was lost for PC. Against an extremely tough UNC defense, senior Brendan Ryan was able to assist on four of the five Providence goals. Ryan's four points in the game, gave him a total of 104 points for career, good for 17th place on the all-time Friar scoring list.

Head Coach Chris Burdick attributed Ryan's success to his "ability to play within the offense and to find breakdowns in



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior Brendan Ryan tallied four assists against North Carolina on Saturday, April 21, and has been one of the Providence seniors that have turned around PC's season, leaving them with a chance at qualifying for the MAAC tournament.

the defense. As a result of breaking down a defense he has been able to find a lot of open men and rack up the assists."

Despite losing for the first time in their last four games, Burdick looked at the North Carolina game as a barometer to

measure where the team is at.

"North Carolina is certainly one of the elite teams in the country," said Burdick. "We scheduled them to prepare us for the tournament and a good team like UNC will expose your weaknesses. They exposed

what we're lacking and hopefully we will be able to improve in those areas and ultimately reach the MAAC tournament."

Those playoff hopes received a much needed boost on Wednesday, April 25th when the Friars traveled to Manhattan College and defeated the Jaspers on their home turf. Both Manhattan and Providence entered the game with identical 3-3 MAAC records, and their playoff lives on the line.

Providence struck first when Senior Bennet Murphy hit the back of the net just 56 seconds into the contest. PC, however, could not feed off of the early goal and were stifled for the remainder of the half. The tough Jasper defense held PC to just 8 first-half shots which left the Friars in a 3-1 hole when the halftime buzzer sounded.

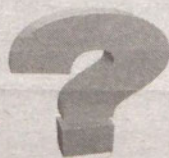
With their season hanging in the balance, Providence came out of the gates strong to start the second half. Senior Bennet Murphy connected on two goals to start the half, giving him a total of three on the day. Keeping up with his fellow classmate, Senior Mark Bundra ripped home a goal at the 5:08 mark of the 3rd quarter to put the Friars up 4-3. The PC defense, led by Senior Goalkeeper Peter Littel's 12 saves, continued to play tough, but the Jaspers were able to net the equalizer with 9:05 remaining in the game. As the clock started to tick away, Sophomore Bobby Labadini seized the moment. Labadini,

LAX/PAGE 22



## McPhail's Line-Up

Thurs, 4/26 TRIVIA NIGHT! Test your brains! 9pm. \$5 per team, 4 players per team. Prizes! Full bar w/ ID at 8pm.



Fri, 4/27 SECOND NATURE LIVE! Last performance of the semester. Full bar w/ ID at 4:30pm.

Sat, 4/28 LAST SENIOR NIGHT before graduation! Don't miss it! Full bar w/ ID at 8pm.



UMass | Dartmouth

Get on the  
**FAST TRACK TO TEACHING**  
math or science,  
**AND GET PAID FOR IT.**

**What's in it for you?**

- **Reduced tuition**
- **Stipend**
- **Guaranteed job interview**

You can learn more at

**[www.umassd.edu/cusp/teach.cfm](http://www.umassd.edu/cusp/teach.cfm)**

Carol Radford • [cradford@umassd.edu](mailto:cradford@umassd.edu) • 774-929-3028

## CLASSIFIEDS

### ROOM FOR RENT!

One bedroom  
Great low price of only  
**\$400/month!**  
All utilities included!  
Located in a great area!  
Interested?  
Email Susan Jarvis at  
[sjarvis1109@yahoo.com](mailto:sjarvis1109@yahoo.com)  
for more information

### ROOMS FOR RENT!

\*3-4 bedrooms\*  
\*Located on the bus route\*  
\*Spacious double parlor!\*  
\*Only \$1350/month!\*  
Interested?  
Email Susan Jarvis at  
[sjarvis1109@yahoo.com](mailto:sjarvis1109@yahoo.com)  
for more information

### GREAT MULITIFAMILY

**HOUSE AVAILABLE!**  
Eaton Street house fully available for rent for the 07-08 school year. All floors have 4 bedrooms, good size living rooms, decks and parking. Rent is \$400 per student.  
Call 617-331-7222 for showing. Don't miss

### HELP WANTED!

Local business seeking sales reps. Excellent Pay PLUS Commission. BENEFITS. BUILD YOUR RESUME! Communication skills required.  
PT 5-9p M-F, 10-2p Sat.  
Short walk to PC/RIC  
401-453-4200



Gomes: Moving forward with the Celts

PC: Cash is the key to future success

continued from back page

game, somebody is and I could get surpassed.”

“When I talk to general managers and basketball people, they say they see me playing this game for a long time,” he continued. “I just do what I do best at any given time, whether it’s me playing against the likes of Tim Duncan, or Dirk Nowitzki, or Kevin Garnett. I still have a talent that I was given just like they were, I just have to try to maximize mine.”

One thing that Ryan has already mastered maximizing is his time. Even with the hectic schedule of a professional athlete, he has found time to give back to the communities that have shaped him. He is active in his hometown of Waterbury, Conn. having provided jackets for kids in need and served Christmas Eve dinner at a homeless shelter.

On March 21, he appeared at the San Miguel School in Providence—a middle school geared toward helping kids with challenging circumstances—and handed out 200 Celtics tickets.

“I just tell the kids now that I’ve been in the same situation as you guys—when I talk to fifth graders, I say ‘I was in fifth grade once’—and I mean, don’t just think that it turns around just like that and next thing you know you’re in the NBA. You have to work at it,” Gomes said.

Gomes also does a number of things for the Celtics in the Boston area—so much, in fact, that he was named last week as the recipient of the First Annual Shamrock Foundation Community All-Star Award. Additionally, he started Hoops for Heart Health, a not-for-profit organization that aims to address the problem of sudden cardiac arrest in sports at all levels.

And, if that’s not enough, he’s also a full-time mentor for his six year-old brother, Marcellus, and all of his little cousins.

“I just view myself as trying to be a role model first and foremost to my family and my younger cousins and other people that

Gomes on the court					
With the Friars			With the Celtics		
Junior Year		Senior Year	Rookie		Sophomore
03-04		04-05	05-06		06-07
34.8	minutes	37.5	61	games	73
18.9	points	21.6	22.6	minutes	31.2
9.4	rebounds	8.2	7.6	points	12.1
.507	shot %	.496	4.9	rebounds	5.6
			.487	shot %	.467

Gomes has shown progressive improvement in the major offensive categories from his breakout junior season at PC through his sophomore season in the NBA with the Boston Celtics

look up to me in Waterbury,” he said. “I know a lot of guys don’t want to be labeled as role models, but once you reach a certain goal in life, you’re given that sense.”

Take that, Charles Barkley.

“ [It’s] a dream come true. I stand here now, two years after graduating in ’05; everything’s been going pretty well for me, and hopefully I continue on this road to success from here on out, because I’d like to play in the NBA for a long time.

Boston Celtics forward  
Ryan Gomes ’05

“I try to lead the path... because there are other family members who play sports and are doing well in school,” he continued. “I think the main thing I tell them is: Do well in school so you can get a scholarship, whether it’s through academics or through sports, and you can achieve anything you want.”

All of that, of course, goes back to his

mother’s influence.

“She’s been a big supporter and I owe all the credit to her because, at first, it starts off in the classroom,” Gomes said. “That’s what she made sure that I knew right away, before I thought about doing any extracurricular activities: That school was number one.”

It’s difficult to say which is more refreshing in this day and age: An athlete who actually listens to his mother, or an athlete who truly believes in the value of an education. Gomes is both of those people rolled into one.

At the most basic level, however, he’s just a kid living out most kids’ childhood fantasy, making a living playing the game of basketball.

“(It’s) a dream come true,” he said. “I stand here now, two years after graduating in ’05; everything’s been going pretty well for me, and hopefully I continue on this road to success from here on out, because I’d like to play in the NBA for a long time. It’s only been two years, so I’m still barely scratching the surface.”

An NBA player who plays for the love of the game? It really doesn’t get any more old school than Ryan Gomes.

continued from page 27

2007 has derailed its challenge.

The way forward

Driscoll is clearly a man with a plan, and with the support of Father Shanley (a PC grad and an admitted sports nut), the sports programs at the College appear to be in good hands. The fundraising efforts are a necessity at a school like PC, but credit Driscoll and Father Shanley for recognizing the need for resources and doing something about it.

What does the future hold? The triumvirate of facility improvements—the turf field, the fitness center, and the renovated Dunkin’ Donuts Center—should certainly help PC, but there is still a long way to go. A combined soccer stadium and track facility seems like the logical next step, but given the money and resources poured into the recent construction projects, there’s no telling when the administration may embrace that idea.

For a school like Providence, it really comes down to the people in the end. No matter what PC does as far as fundraising, the school will never have the same resources as most of its rivals. But as long as Driscoll and company can stay ahead of the curve by making the right hires, prioritizing the sports programs, and maximizing the impact of available resources, the future of PC athletics should be a bright one.

“I think we’re making great progress,” Driscoll said. “The reality is you never truly ever arrive; it’s an ongoing process and you keep raising the bar. At the end of the day, you just want to feel like you gave your best effort and did the best you could with the resources that you have.”

STUDENTS LIVING OFF CAMPUS

To assist future students moving off campus,  
please fill out this evaluation sheet and return it to  
Off Campus Living Office, Slavin Center 206

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad. Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Rental Unit Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Floor: \_\_\_\_\_

How many shared this apartment ? \_\_\_\_\_

Landlord name \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly total Rent \_\_\_\_\_ Utilities monthly cost: HEAT: \_\_\_\_\_

ELECTRIC: \_\_\_\_\_ GAS \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Heat: oil \_\_\_\_ gas \_\_\_\_ electric \_\_\_\_ baseboard \_\_\_\_ radiators \_\_\_\_\_

Do you buy a meal plan on campus ? Yes No How many meals ? \_\_\_\_\_

Condition of Shower/Tub, water pressure \_\_\_\_\_

Washer & Dryer: Free or Coin ? Cost per load \_\_\_\_\_

Parking Conditions, How many cars fit ?Any unique problems ? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Can Landlord/Manager be reached easily ? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are repairs made in reasonable time ? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Up and down week on the diamond for PC softball

BY ERIN REDIHAN '08  
SPORTS EDITOR

After what felt like weeks of rainouts and less than ideal field conditions, the Providence College Women's Softball Team (22-18) finally saw some sun this weekend. Spring came just in time, too, as the Friars had a formidable schedule over the past week because of makeup games from earlier rainouts.

Since last Thursday, April 19, the team has played eight games, hosting Holy Cross, Rutgers, Villanova, and Yale and traveling to Harvard. This averages out to more than a game per day—a more rigorous schedule than an average week in Major League Baseball.

Over that stretch, the Friars posted a 5-3 record, something to be commended considering how competitive the Big East has been this season.

The Friars went into their doubleheader against Yale on Wednesday, April 25—Senior Day—looking to make the four seniors' last contests on Raymond Field positive by halting a three-game skid.

The consecutive losses to Villanova on Sunday, April 22, and Harvard on Tuesday, April 25, mark the first time the team has dropped both halves of twinbill since March 31.

Wednesday's games marked the last time that seniors Rachel Bartholomew, Caroline Santilli, Sara Surosky, and Katie Ross would play at Raymond Field in front of their Friar fans.

"Today was very memorable as each senior contributed in a very special way," said Head Coach Kerri Jacklets.

In addition to it being Senior Day, the Friars had plenty of motivation to beat Yale because they had not won against the Bulldogs in three years.

The Friars' offense—which has been inconsistent lately—came alive in the opening game. The Friars capitalized on their strong bats and swept the Bulldogs, 7-1 in the first game and 8-0 in a five inning shutout in the second contest.

Providence exploded for six runs in the third. The rally began when the team loaded the bases with no one out. Junior Sam Pittman doubled home the first two Friars. Sophomore Gina Rossi added a run with her single later in the inning.

Senior Rachel Bartholomew's two hits made her PC's all-time hits leader with 205—a fitting accomplishment for the Friars' catcher on Senior Day.

"She has been a staple for this program," said Jacklets.

Senior Sara Surosky and sophomore Alisha Levin allowed only one run combined in seven innings. Surosky now has 11 wins this season.

Offense was in abundance for the Friars in the second game as well. As in the first game, Providence pitching was nearly flawless. Sophomore Jennifer Maccio pitched a complete game five inning shut out for her seventh victory of the season.

Freshman Jenna Garcia enjoyed the best offensive game of her career thus far, finishing with two home runs and three RBIs.

The Friars scored four runs in the fourth off Garcia's second round tripper and sin-



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

**Sophomore Mary Rose Sheehy's RBI single against Villanova on Sunday, April 22, evened the score at 4-4; however, the Wildcats came back in the fifth to take the lead for good.**

gles from Pittman and senior Katie Ross.

The team capped off its scoring in the fifth. Senior Caroline Santilli started the offense with a double. She crossed the plate off an RBI singles from Pittman. Garcia contributed her third hit and RBI in the frame as well.

The eight runs was enough to end the game after five innings of play and made for a memorable Senior Day.

On Tuesday, April 24, the Friars made the short trip to Cambridge, Mass. to play the Crimson in a rare single game, a makeup of their April 12 rainout. Unfortunately, the team's busy schedule may have caught up with it, as it was shut out 4-0.

Harvard got off to a fast start by scoring in the first off Hayley Bock's RBI single. The Crimson added three insurance runs in the third with a two-run single from Jennifer Francis.

While PC failed to score, its offense was not completely stifled by Harvard pitcher Shelly Madick. Freshman Katelyn Revens and Katie Ross each had two hits. For the Friars, sophomore Jennifer Maccio allowed all four runs in 2.2 innings of work. Senior Sara Surosky came in relief in the third and held the Crimson to three hits and no runs the rest of the way.

The Friars took on Big East foe Villanova (21-21-1, 3-9 Big East) on Sunday, April 22. The team went into the day looking to improve its shot at making the Big East Tournament in May, as the Friars are currently ninth in a conference where only the top eight teams make the postseason. Villanova, however, had other ideas for the outcome.

The Friar offense started strong by posting three runs in the first off four straight walks. Rossi made the Wildcats pay for the free passes with a two-run single.

Providence could not hold the lead; the Wildcats roared back with three runs in the fourth inning. The Friars countered with

sophomore Mary Rose Sheehy's RBI single in the bottom of the fourth to score Bartholomew but Nova had the final say.

The Wildcats took a 5-4 lead on Eryn Teague's second home run and added an extra run in the seventh to win 6-4.

The offense was much quieter on both sides in the second game. Maccio pitched very well for the Friars allowing only one unearned run in seven innings, but Wildcat Kat Walsh was slightly better, holding PC scoreless in a complete game shutout.

Providence started the weekend off strong by sweeping Rutgers on Saturday, April 21 by scores of 5-2 and 4-1.

The Scarlet Knights drew first blood off a solo shot by Mallory Miller but Bartholomew fought back with a two-run shot of her own in the third. She now leads

the Friars with nine round-trippers.

The Friars' bats stayed hot as the team doubled its lead in the fourth. They capitalized on freshman Jenna Garcia's RBI groundout and a single from Revens. Freshman Danielle Bertolette tacked on the final run in the fifth when she was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

Surosky was the winning pitcher, earning her tenth victory of the year. She allowed just two runs off seven hits in the complete game effort.

Sheehy got the Friars started early in the second game with her two-run RBI single. That proved to be all the offense PC would need but she—and the rest of the team—was not done yet. Sheehy started a two-run rally in the fourth with her third hit of the game and scored off Ross's single later in the inning.

The Scarlet Knights scored their only run off a Friar error in the third.

Maccio pitched a complete game, allowing only the unearned run and eight hits.

The Friars defeated Holy Cross 3-1 in a single game in Worcester, Mass. on Thursday, April 19. This game was a makeup for a doubleheader that was rained out earlier in the month.

Providence scored all of its runs off two third inning home runs. Rossi led off with her second blast of the year and Bertolette drove in Santilli with a line drive over the fence later in the inning.

The Crusaders scored their only run off Maccio—who came in to relieve Surosky in the fifth—in the sixth but were unable to pull any closer.

The Friars push toward the Big East Tournament continues with another full slate of games this weekend. The team will take to the road for two contests against the University of South Florida in Tampa on Saturday, April 28.

From there, they play two in Louisville on Sunday, April 29, and two at cross town rival Brown on Tuesday, May 1.

Though they are not yet in the tournament, the Friars know a lot can change in a week—especially one as busy as this.

## THE BRYANT MBA Makes Perfect Sense Right Now

For the right people, earning a Bryant MBA right after college is a smart move.

With a Bryant MBA, you will know more about business than most people your age. You'll master the concepts and skills you need to start a great career in business.

Learn from first-class faculty, and progress with a select group of other bright, ambitious people through a rigorous curriculum that combines the most current theory with the best business practices.

You'll form strong business networks with your fellow students and successful Bryant Alumni that will last a lifetime.

Earn a Bryant MBA in only one-year, and jump-start your business career.



TAKE STEPS NOW TO TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE  
IN JUST ONE YEAR WITH THE BRYANT MBA.

TO LEARN MORE, ATTEND AN  
INFORMATION SESSION:

April 26 or May 1 at 3 p.m.  
at Bryant University

To register for an information  
session, or schedule an  
interview and tour, visit  
[www.bryant.edu/mba](http://www.bryant.edu/mba),  
or call 401-232-6230.



THE BRYANT MBA

BRYANT UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
1150 DOUGLAS FERE  
SMITHFIELD, RHODE ISLAND



Are you constantly correcting your  
friends' grammar?

Do you get pleasure out of finding  
typos in *The Cowl*?

Then join the  
**Copy-Editing Staff!**

Applications Available in *The Cowl* office, Slavin G05



# Friars fly at UConn invite

BY MOLLIE QUINN '09  
SPORTS STAFF

While most Providence College students could be found barbecuing on the quad, sunbathing on Slavin Lawn, or tossing a Frisbee around lower campus on Saturday, April 21, the Men's and Women's Outdoor Track teams were competing at the UConn Invitational.

A number of the men's and women's runners were able to secure first, second, and third place victories for the Friars. The men's team finished fifth place out of seven teams with 37 points while the women's squad placed sixth out of eight with 41 points.

As hoped, the Friars were able to qualify more of their runners for the upcoming Big East Championships. This year, the Championships will be take place Saturday, May 5, and Sunday, May 6, at the University of Connecticut.

"We are where we need to be right now in the season, it's been a long year and we only have two weeks left," said Head Coach Ray Treacy. "We just have to keep going strong and work together."

At UConn, the team faced both large and small schools from the Northeast, including UConn, Brown, URI, Quinnipiac, Boston University, Central Connecticut State University, and Southern Connecticut State University.

"It was a great meet to be at," said Treacy. "The weather was nice for the first time all season."

Although the temperature was warmer than the runners were used to, they were still able to accomplish all of the goals that they had in mind going into the meet.

"At a low key meet like this, you really want to just work at getting into a good race, work together with your teammates, and leave the competition feeling good and having confidence for the upcoming more important races," said junior Michelle Childs.

The women's squad was led by freshman Krystal Douglas, who won the 5000



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

**Junior Michelle Childs helped pace the Friars to a strong finish at the UConn Invitational last weekend with a third place finish in the 5000 meters.**

meters. Douglas finished the race in a time of 17:24.87. A few seconds behind her was junior Michelle Childs who placed third, finishing in 17:36.43.

"It's really great to have someone you know running in a race with you, you know their strengths and weaknesses and can help each other out," said Childs. "Instead of competing against each other, we work together and push one another."

Senior Meghan Owen captured a first place victory in the 1500 meters, completing the event in a time of 4:32.62. Also competing in the 1500 meter run was freshman Breffini Twohig, who finished the race in third place at 4:38.82.

TRACK/Page 22



**Who is more important to his team's success: A-Rod for the New York Yankees or Dice-K for the Boston Red Sox?**  
—Jill Corsi '09

The person whose success matters most to his team is **Dice-K**. A-Rod's hot start has helped him feel like a Yankee for the first time since he arrived in New York. Unlike Dice-K, A-Rod has the luxury of six perennial All-Stars who can pick up the offensive slack should he slow down.

Even though Dice-K is only 26 years old, does not speak much English, and has only pitched in four games, the Red Sox are looking for him to eventually become the ace of their staff and for good reason. As currently constructed, the Red Sox's pitching staff is comprised of a 40 year-old overweight pitcher, a long reliever turned starter who hits batters more often than he hits the strike zone, a knuckleballer whose knuckleball flutters as much as the hearts of the fans watching it, and a stubborn 26-year-old who relies too much on his fastball, making Dice-K's success and the Sox's playoff and World Series hopes deeply intertwined.

The pressure on Dice-K is further compounded by the six-year 60 million dollar deal and 50 million dollar posting fee that the Sox paid for him. He is currently the highest played foreign player ever to play in the United States. Expectations for him both in the United States and abroad are of almost unfathomable proportions, as fans and the media expect a perfect game every time he takes the mound. For Dice-K, there is no room for failure, because if he struggles, the Red Sox don't make the playoffs. If A-Rod struggles he just gets booed.

Remember, Cowl readers . . . we want to hear from you! Just e-mail your questions either about PC sports or sports in general to [cowlsports@gmail.com](mailto:cowlsports@gmail.com), and we'll do our best to answer them—and stir up a little debate if we can!

Thanks,  
The Cowl Sports Staff

This answer is simple when you look at this fact: **Alex Rodriguez** plays every day, while Daisuke Matsuzaka (Dice-K) only can influence his team's outcomes every five days.

Not to make the mistake that A-Rod alone controls the Yankees' fortunes, of course. As the opening games this season have proved, despite his hot start at the plate, he still can't pitch. However, as Dice-K's last three starts have showed, he can get knocked around and still win, and he can pitch great and lose. Furthermore, even if A-Rod isn't hitting—which hasn't been often so far—he can contribute by saving runs on defense. When Dice-K is not pitching, or pitching well, there is little else he can do to contribute to the hopes of Red Sox victory on a given night.

Baseball sabermetrician Bill James has created a stat called win-shares that, when divided by three, estimates how many wins a player contributes to his team each year. It is no coincidence that an elite batter such as A-Rod can often approach 25 or 35 win-shares a season. Pitcher win-shares approximate their actual win total.

Since no starting pitcher has won 25 games since 1990—and before that 1980—it's reasonably safe to assume Dice-K will not. In other words, a batter who is very good all year (A-Rod) is worth more to his team than a starting pitcher in today's game, even if that pitcher is dominant every fifth day.

—Drew Goucher '08

## WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS.



At Quinnipiac University School of Law, you'll find everything you need to succeed. From a challenging yet supportive academic environment to faculty members who will become intellectual colleagues. From live-client clinics to real-world externships. Plus annual merit scholarships ranging from \$3,000 to full tuition. For more information, visit [law.quinnipiac.edu](http://law.quinnipiac.edu) or call 1-800-462-1944.

- Outstanding faculty
- Rigorous academic programs
- Six concentrations
- Extensive experiential learning opportunities
- Student faculty ratio 15:1

CRIMINAL | DISPUTE RESOLUTION | FAMILY | HEALTH | INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY | TAX

QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
Hamden, Connecticut



# 8th annual State of PC Sports

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07  
SPORTS EDITOR EMERITUS

## Size doesn't matter: PC manages to compete in nation's top conferences

The State of PC Sports address is an annual feature written by *The Cowl's* sports editor. The piece is a tradition begun by Joe Valenzano '00, seven years ago.

This year, Sports Editor Emeritus Kevin O'Brien '07 writes his inaugural State of PC Sports address. It focuses on revamping athletic facilities, new coaching staffs, and Providence's ability to compete in the Big East Conference.

The great American philosopher Sean Combs once said, "It's all about the Benjamins." He may as well have been talking about college athletics.

College sports today are completely resource-driven: Witness Nick Saban's eight-year, \$32 million contract to become the football coach at Alabama, or the \$28 million that Nike is paying North Carolina over an eight year span for its merchandising rights. The athletes may be amateurs, but their success and exposure are driven in large part by dollars and cents.

Few people are more aware of this than Bob Driscoll, the athletic director at Providence College. PC finds itself in a unique position among the 73 schools in the so-called BCS conferences (the six largest conferences in college athletics): It has the smallest undergraduate enrollment and the smallest endowment.

That's not Driscoll or the Athletic Department getting in their excuses—that's just reality. The Friars compete in the Big East and Hockey East, conferences filled with financial juggernauts like Louisville, Notre Dame, and Boston College. While Notre Dame ranks 17th among American universities with a \$4.4 billion endowment, Providence is 296th on that list with \$136 million—just 14 spots behind Bryant University's \$152 million.

For PC to compete at its current level, the resources obtained must be utilized to maximum effect. To this end, fundraising has become the number one agenda topic for Driscoll and Reverend Brian J. Shanley, O.P., President of the College. Providence may be punching above its weight, as the saying goes, but these men refuse to let the PC sports programs go down without a fight.

Since Driscoll took the reigns in November 2001, annual fundraising for the Athletic Department has jumped from \$200,000 per year to \$2 million this year.

"But that needs to be even larger if we're going to be able to accomplish these goals," Driscoll said. "So my and Father Shanley's real challenge is to raise more money."

### New facilities

Driscoll talks openly about the vision he had for PC when he arrived at the College over five years ago—a vision that has, at least in part, been realized.

"Father Shanley's handling of athletics, along with continued facility improvements, will largely dictate the overall success of Providence athletics."

Steve O'Keefe '05  
Sports Editor 2004-05  
April 7, 2005

"I remember being interviewed by the [Providence] Journal (when I was hired)... asking me what our vision was," Driscoll said. "There's a lot of things we talked about in terms of building an Astroturf field for our student athletes and all the students. We've accomplished that. We talked about building a fitness center. With Father Shanley's leadership, obviously we're in the process of accomplishing that. We talked about renovating the Dunkin Donuts Center, which we obviously don't control, but the fact that they're

putting \$65 million dollars into that is a huge accomplishment."

The turf field was completed in the summer of 2005 and has been up and running for the field hockey program, the lacrosse program, and intramural sports since then. Head Coach Diane Madl's field hockey team have been the major beneficiaries of the new complex, celebrating the move from Hendricken Field by posting an 18-4 record and a final ranking of No. 11 in the country.

"For Division I programs, turf is absolutely the surface of choice," Madl told *The Cowl* in September. "So with that, you have the recruiting aspect of that—high level athletes that want to be competing at the next level look to make sure that the turf is where they're going to be playing."

The fitness center should also provide a huge boost to recruiting efforts, and not just for the field hockey program. Driscoll said that its construction is right on target for a completion date of August 18.

"I had the chance to walk through it last week during the admissions open house, and it's going to be absolutely spectacular," he said. "The views from inside there with the glass—it's really going to be one of the most state-of-the-art buildings in the nation."

The final piece of that puzzle is the Dunkin' Donuts Center, which is also in the midst of an overhaul. This past season saw the addition of a new video board and sound system, and by the time all is said and done (which should be January 2009), the arena will boast improved concession stands, new entry areas, refurbished locker rooms, restaurants, luxury boxes, and black and silver seats.

### Results on the field, the court, and the rink

Of course, while PC fans certainly care about the facilities, of more importance to the Friar faithful are the teams that play on them.

The gap in resources faced by the PC sports programs makes personnel decisions that much more crucial. Driscoll admits that the Athletic Department places a premium on coaches who demonstrate an ability to overachieve, and he points to Track and Cross Country Head Coach Ray Treacy as the shining example of that. With no track and aging facilities (at least until the new fitness center is completed), Treacy has nonetheless established PC as a national contender.

"You try to hire people who really can get it done with less and there are some people that certainly can do that," Driscoll said. "I'm not sure you can do that consistently, so our strategy is to figure out a plan that says: Here are the sports that we want to compete at the highest possible national level strategically; here is a group of sports that we're very fortunate to have and we're going to compete at the highest level within the context of the money we offer; then we have some sports, that aren't funded at all scholarship-wise, that we want to be able to compete, but to expect them to have consistently winning record is an unrealistic expectation."

It's a "tiering" system, as Driscoll calls

it, and it's an eminently sensible way for PC to juggle its limited resources between a large number of programs.

In the top tier, of course, is the school's flagship program, men's basketball. This year's Friars posted an 18-13 overall record, including an 8-8 mark in the Big East, and advanced beyond the Big East Tournament for the first time in three years.

With only one senior graduating, and two transfers and at least two recruits joining the program, hopes run high as things move forward. Driscoll, for one, believes that the

"As long as Driscoll and company can stay ahead of the curve by making the right hires, prioritizing the sports programs, and maximizing the impact of available resources, the future of PC athletics should be a bright one."

Kevin O'Brien

Friars are moving in the right direction.

"I think programmatically we're in the best shape we've ever been. When I say that, it has to do with the infrastructure—whether it's the trainers, the training room, the psychologists, the doctors, how we travel, the facilities we practice in, the academic support systems, the coaching staff,

all of the Big East (which is more solidified and generating more money), the Dunkin' Donuts Center, the fitness center—the program is in the best shape it's been, certainly since I've been here."

What remains to be seen is whether Head Coach Tim Welsh and his team can take advantage of the improving situation.

Two of the other top tier programs are in the midst of rebuilding with second-year coaches: Men's hockey, with Tim Army, and women's basketball, with Phil Seymore. Army's crew took a step backward this year, finishing eighth in Hockey East with a record of 10-23-3. Women's hoops, on the other hand, almost upped its record from 8-19 the year before to 13-15 this past season. Both programs, however, seem to be headed in the right direction under young, energetic coaches.

Also in the young, energetic coach category are Men's Soccer's Chaka Daley and the aforementioned Madl. Army and Seymore certainly hope to emulate their colleague's success, as Daley guided the Friars to their second consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance this past year, while Madl's field hockey team was snubbed from the 16-team NCAA Tournament despite finishing with an RPI ranking of No. 9.

Additionally, the track and cross country teams have continued their remarkable run under Treacy, with both cross country teams placing among the top ten at the NCAA Championships in October. Head Coach Bob Deraney's women's hockey team made the Hockey East finals for the fourth time in six seasons. The PC lacrosse team was the preseason favorite to win the Metro-Atlantic Athletic Conference, but a rough start to

PC/Page XX



At Eastern Mountain Sports we're making it easy to lead a double life. Just show us your college student ID\* and you'll get 15% OFF everything\* in the store. Because every now and then you need to hit the trail instead of the books, right? Stop by or check us out online at [www.ems.com](http://www.ems.com) to find a store near you.

\*Present your currently valid college or university student ID card to receive a 15% discount on all full-price merchandise. Presentation of a valid college or university student ID card is required to receive this discount. Offer valid at Eastern Mountain Sports retail stores only. Not valid for purchases of swimwear or over the phone. This offer may not be combined with other discounts or special offers. Offer good for the purchase of full-price merchandise only. Excludes merchandise. No cash refunds. Discounts will not apply to clearance products, shipping and handling, merchandise returned, or product returns or gift cards. Offer not available to Eastern Mountain Sports employees. Other limitations and exclusions may apply—see store for details.

**Eastern Mountain Sports**  
EASTERN MOUNTAIN SPORTS

To see the progress made so far on the Dunkin Donuts Center and get an idea of what the final product will look like when the renovations are complete in 2009, check out the links below:

- <http://www.riconvention.com/Authority/dunk/architecturalRenderings.cfm>
- <http://friars.cstv.com/genrel/041006aae.html>

Garden City Shopping Center  
176 Hillside Road, Cranston, RI 02920



## Checking in with PC's favorite son

This week, Kevin O'Brien '07 sits down with former Friar star Ryan Gomes to reflect on his life both on and off the court since graduating from Providence College and being drafted by the Celtics in 2005.

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07  
SPORTS EDITOR EMERITUS

Ryan Gomes is old school.

It's not just his game, though that's old school enough on its own: A game built on fundamentals, things too often forgotten by the youth of today, like the mid-range jumper, boxing out, and finishing around the hoop, just to name a few.

No, Ryan Gomes is truly old school because he values things that are, well, too often forgotten by the youth of today. Things like the importance of getting an education; the meaning of family; dedication to hard work; and setting a good example for the kids that look up to him.

"You don't change even though your profession changes," Gomes said.

"Your lifestyle's going to change a little bit, but as a person you shouldn't change. You want to continue to work each and every day."

It would be tough to believe him if he didn't follow his own advice. Here's a person who overcame tremendous odds to get to where he is today, and he's a breath of fresh air: A professional athlete who actually has his priorities straight.

Maybe it's his upbringing. His mother, Teresa, was a single mom working two jobs to provide for Ryan, and that dedication has clearly rubbed off on her son.

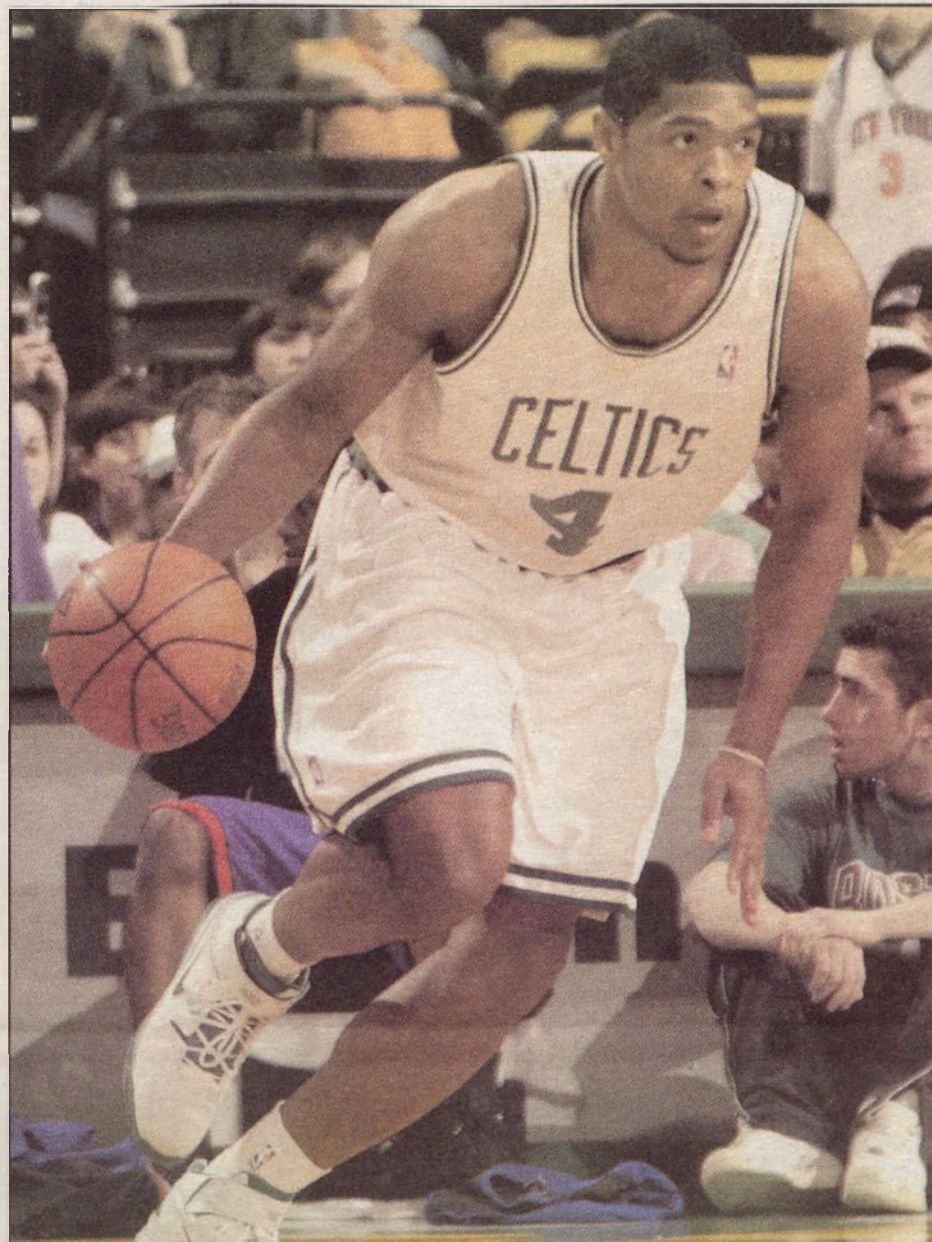
"She wanted me to accomplish one goal: when I was younger it was to do well in school, and [later it was to] finish out at Providence, and that's what I did for her," he says. "So being in the NBA and doing what I love to do is one of my goals, but it wasn't something she forced upon me."

In fact, Gomes never played organized basketball until his freshman year of high school. In a day and age when kids as young as sixth grade are identified as future college recruits, Gomes was a six-foot-tall ninth grader starting on the Wilby High freshman team in Waterbury, Conn.—nothing to sneer at, certainly, but not where one would figure to find most future NBA players.

"When I was younger, I was playing basketball to play it," he said. "I was tall, and friends and family said, 'You should try it out,' and I did."

But then that work ethic kicked in, and by the time he was a senior, Gomes had led his varsity team to the state tournament three times and had garnered numerous accolades along the way.

Nevertheless, most major Division I programs considered him too short and too heavy to succeed as a pivotman at the next level—a scenario that would repeat



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Despite being the 50th overall pick in the 2005 NBA draft, former PC star and all-time scoring leader Ryan Gomes has made a name for himself through two seasons with the Boston Celtics because of his hard work and high basketball IQ. Off the court, Gomes has been a mentor to his brother and younger cousins, and he has been honored for his charity work with the First Annual Shamrock Foundation Community All-Star Award.



itself again a few years later when the NBA came knocking.

"Coming from high school up into the college level and to where I'm at now, there have always been some non-believers that made me work a little bit extra

harder," he said.

Head Coach Tim Welsh was not among those non-believers, however, and Ryan Gomes and Providence College turned out to be a match made in heaven. Four fantastic years later, after garnering First Team All-American honors and setting the PC career scoring mark, Gomes was ready to take his game to the next level.

Though he slipped to the 50th pick in the 2005 NBA Draft—again, because of questions about his height—Gomes refused to let that deter him. His two years with the Boston Celtics have seen him far exceed the expectations of those general managers that passed him up in the draft, but that's just how he operates.

"Making it to this level, there's only a few guys that stick around for a certain amount of time or become superstars," he said. "I'm trying to leave a legacy to the game of something that I stand for, which

### Life after PC

Editor's Note: Throughout the course of the semester, the Sports staff will examine the prospects of several former Friar athletes in a feature we like to call "Life after PC."

is to become an overachiever."

He's certainly made a nice start for himself. He has started 94 of the 136 games he's played in over the past two years, averaging 7.6 points and 4.9 rebounds his rookie year and following that up with a sophomore campaign of 12.1 points and 5.6 rebounds per game.

But beyond the numbers, Gomes has done it the same way he did at Providence: By playing the proverbial right way. Never a high flier or an athletic freak, he has been forced to rely on other talents, like a knack for positioning and a high basketball IQ. He has constantly refined his game as his career has progressed; his range on his jumper continues to increase, but he has still not lost the inside toughness that defined his career at PC.

Unfortunately, during Gomes' two years on the team, the Celtics have been far from successful, battling both injuries and youthfulness in equal measure. Much was made about Gomes' comments following Boston's April 13 loss to Milwaukee, a loss which assured the Celtics the second most ping pong balls in the upcoming NBA Draft lottery.

"I probably [would have played], but since we were in the hunt for a high draft pick, of course things are different," he said after riding the bench for the whole fourth quarter.

Some in the media interpreted the losses as the Celtics trying to lose to improve their draft position. Those who know Ryan, however, understand that he's simply frustrated. If hard work is the *modus operandi* of old school values, then winning is the holy grail, so it's only natural that consistently losing would weigh on such a fierce competitor.

Gomes does, however, see things looking up for the beleaguered Celtics. Pointing to the abundance of injuries the team endured this year, he says that a fully healthy Boston squad is capable of competing next year.

"We had a lot of young guys step up this year and play well, and with the addition of the guys that (were injured that) have been here awhile, I think that only makes it a brighter future for us," he said. "And, as you say, every year the draft comes up, so we're going to add a player or two to our roster this year."

With changes imminent in the off-season, Gomes knows that his minutes and even his roster spot are never written in stone. But regardless of who the Celts add, he refuses to be outworked.

"What motivates me to go ahead and practice and work hard every day is that this is not guaranteed," Gomes said. "Being in the NBA is not guaranteed... You could get hurt and that could be the end of it. Another thing is that, if I'm not working in the gym, I know somebody else in the NBA is. There are 450 players that are out there, so if I'm not working on my

### Ryan Gomes Interview

Want to read more of *The Cowl* interview with Ryan Gomes? Check out [www.thecowl.com](http://www.thecowl.com) to read his thoughts on:

- The current PC basketball team and their prospects for next year
- His relationship with Herbert Hill
- His biggest fan—his little brother Marcellus
- His memories from Providence

